

Hafa Adai!

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CUC counsel: Ruling on suit applicable to all affected CW-1 workers, employers

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The federal court's ruling on the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s and its 13 foreign workers' lawsuit will be applicable to the thousands of CNMI-only Transitional Worker (CW-1) workers and their employers who are also affected by the CW-1 cap system, according to CUC counsel James S. Sirok.

In CUC's and its foreign workers' memorandum in support of a motion for temporary restraining order, Sirok said it is common knowledge within the community, and the CNMI in general, that the CW-1 workforce is a necessary component to the livelihood of the CNMI's economy.

"Without its presence and participation in the overall work force of the CNMI, there would be significant

See CUC on **Page 4**

» **Affected CW-1 workers are technical specialists with combined 91 years of experience with CUC's power generation engines**
» **CUC warns of more outages if CW-1 issue not resolved**

MVA welcomes keys for growth of NMI tourism

By **JON PEREZ**
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REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority is welcoming the two basic key elements—airlift and additional room inventory—that would further help the CNMI's recovering tourism industry. Three airlines launched direct flights to Saipan in a span of one month, while Kensington Hotel



Concepcion

Saipan opened last week.

MVA managing director Chris Concepcion said the inaugural flights made by Korean low cost carrier Jin Air, Philippine Airlines Express, and Hong Kong Airlines is a welcome addition to the CNMI's growing tourism market.

"The MVA is thrilled with the new

See MVA on **Page 4**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Two volunteers place blue and yellow ribbons in one of the trees located along Beach Road, Chalan Piao in preparation for the Aug. 2 commemoration of Typhoon Soudelor's landfall on Saipan.

AS FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF SOUDELOR NEARS CARE volunteers tie blue, yellow ribbons all around Saipan

By **MACKENZIE PEREZ**
CORRESPONDENT

Commonwealth Advocates for Recovery Efforts volunteers have been tying blue and yellow ribbons around the island the past couple of

days in preparation for the first anniversary of Typhoon Soudelor's devastation of the island.

CARE said the ribbons signify the island's resiliency and unity after the tragedy and is part of a slew of activities to commemorate Soudelor

making landfall on Saipan.

Dubbed SOU' Fest, the week-long commemoration will kick off with a proclamation signing by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres on Monday, Aug. 1 at the Governor Of-

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INSIDE



LOCAL

A total of 18 winners won four free movie tickets apiece to the premiere of *Ice Age: Collision Course* last Thursday at the Regal Cinemas Saipan Mega-plex 7.

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NATION

Hillary Clinton debuted running mate Sen. Tim Kaine on Saturday as a can-do progressive committed to social justice and equality.

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WORLD

The gunman whose rampage at a Munich mall left nine people dead was a depression-plagued teenager who avidly read books and articles about mass killings.

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USHERING IN THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Best Sunshine International, Ltd.-Corporate Social Responsibility's initiated School Project was launched last week and several activities were immediately held throughout various Saipan public schools to help them usher in the new school year. In this photo, BSI-CSR team clears up the surrounding area of Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School with green waste and debris.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Local

OVER ALLEGED POOR PERFORMANCE

Imperial Pacific sues Skywalker Communications

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, the Hong Kong-based mother company of Saipan casino owner Best Sunshine International, is suing Skywalker Communications Group LLC for its alleged inability to provide satisfactory work pertaining to their two contracts, including having key staff that were not sufficient in English communication design ideas, among other issues.

Imperial Pacific, through counsel Michael W. Dotts, is suing Skywalker Communications before the Superior Court for breach of contract.

Imperial Pacific asked the court to hold Skywalker Communications liable to pay the company damages in an amount to be proven at trial, plus attorney's fees and court costs.

Imperial Pacific also requested the court to declare that its two contracts with Skywalker Communications have been terminated.

Asked for comment yesterday, Skywalker Communications counsel Robert T. Torres said he will be entering an appearance in this case and will be responding to the complaint in due course.

According to Dotts in the complaint, in June 2015, Imperial Pacific entered into a contract with Skywalker Communications referred to as the Special Groups Agreement (SGA).

Dotts said that in July 2015, Imperial Pacific entered into a second contract with defendant referred to as the Creative Design Agreement (CDA).

Under the SGA, Skywalker Communications was to conduct planning and implementation of "special groups" on Imperial Pacific's behalf, such as retirees, education groups, and groups within the tourism industry.

SGA's term was to be from July 1, 2015 to June 31, 2017.

Dotts said the work that defendant was to perform under the SGA was to include the creation, administration, and general management of the special groups.

In exchange for defendant's performance under the SGA, Imperial Pacific was to pay

\$66,420 monthly to Skywalker Communications, plus cover certain costs of Skywalker Communications.

Dotts said that in October, November, and December 2015, Skywalker Communications was not performing as was required under the contract.

Imperial Pacific made a final payment on the SGA on Jan. 29, 2016.

On Feb. 5, 2016, Imperial Pacific gave defendant written notice of its dissatisfaction with its performance.

Dotts said Skywalker Communications did not come within compliance with the SGA within the 20 days provided after receiving the Feb. 5, 2016 notice.

Instead, Dotts said, Skywalker Communications wrongfully asserted it had complied.

Dotts said that on Feb. 26, 2016, plaintiffs delivered notice of termination on the SGA to Skywalker Communications.

Under the CDA, Skywalker Communications was to provide design work, including development of trademarks, logos, text in advertising materials, and images for use of promotions and advertising.

The term of the CDA was to be from July 1, 2015 to June 31, 2017.

Under the CDA, Skywalker Communications was to work with plaintiff to create design work that was satisfactory to plaintiff.

Dotts said the parties understood that such design work was very personal and that Imperial Pacific would have wide discretion to reject design work that did not satisfy the company.

In exchange for defendant's performance under the CDA, Imperial Pacific was to pay \$63,037.50 monthly to defendant, plus cover certain approved expenses.

Dotts said that in October, November, and December 2015, defendant was not performing as was required under the contract.

Dotts said Imperial Pacific repeatedly orally advised Skywalker Communications of the problems with its performance and defendant did not correct its performance.

See **IMPERIAL** on Page 4

WIC is celebrating World Breastfeeding Week in August!

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AG urges passage of SAFE II legislation

Attorney General Edward Manibusan is urging the Legislature to pass the second part of his office's initiative to update the Commonwealth's firearm statutes and to do so expeditiously.

"I have submitted to the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Office of the Attorney General's Special Act for Firearms Enforcement bill (or SAFE II)," the attorney general stated. "With SAFE II in place, the Department of Public Safety can process firearm applications consistent with the Second Amendment requirements."

In the meeting with the House of Representative members, the attorney general answered questions on SAFE II. "We also discussed changing the scope of the Second Amendment and the litigation that is occurring across the country," he said. He noted the recent Ninth Circuit decision addressing the Second Amendment in *Peruta v. San Diego*. The Ninth Circuit held that the Second Amendment does not guarantee the right to carry concealed firearms in public. However, the Court did not decide whether there is a right to carry a firearm openly in public.

"This case is important to the Commonwealth because we are within the jurisdiction of the Ninth Circuit. Therefore, any decision from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals is applicable to the Commonwealth unless it is overturned by the United States Supreme Court," noted Manibusan. "Given the changes in the law, the Commonwealth must continue to update its firearm laws," he stated. "The Office of the Attorney General is monitoring the firearm cases throughout the country," adds the AG.



Manibusan

The OAG's SAFE II draft bill would modernize the Commonwealth's existing firearm laws. The proposed legislation ensures that Department of Public Safety processes firearm registrations in a timely and efficient manner. DPS also will be empowered to conduct federal background checks on individuals when they register firearms.

The OAG's SAFE II draft legislation also has provisions that govern the commercial sale of firearms in the Commonwealth. "Currently, Commonwealth law requires DPS to regulate firearm vendors, but there is little guidance on how firearm vendors should be regulated," the attorney general stated.

The attorney general noted other provisions of the OAG proposed bill by stating, "We are proposing that firearms be transferred through a firearm vendor or through the Department of Public Safety which will ensure that criminals are not able to acquire firearms without passing a background check. The measure also includes a 10-day waiting period on any individual who wishes to purchase a firearm. By mandating a waiting period, it will prevent unstable individuals from acquiring and using firearms in emotionally charged situations."

Accompanying the attorney general to the meeting with the House of Representatives were deputy attorney General Lillian Tenorio, OAG chief solicitor James Zarones, and assistant attorney general Charles "Ned" Brasington. (PR)

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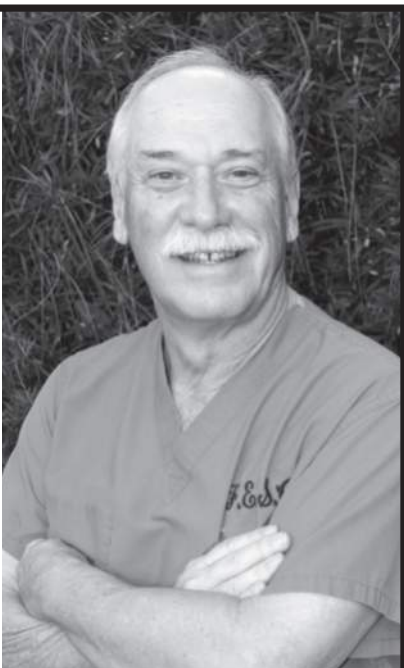
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CUC

From Page 1

consequences," Sirok said.

In this respect, the lawyer said, it is axiomatic that the injunctive relief that they are being requested is in the best interest of the public.

Sirok said while CUC and its affected CW-1 workers bring this lawsuit on their own behalf, and not as a class action, the court's ruling on their request for injunctive relief, as well as on the underlying merits of the case, will be applicable to the thousands of CW-1 workers and their employers who are currently in the same positions.

Sirok asked the court to enter immediate injunctive relief and a TRO allowing CW-1 plaintiffs to immediately return to work or continue to work whatever the situation may be.

Sirok requested the court to prevent defendants from taking any adverse action against plaintiffs based on this return to work for the temporary period until the court enters a further order for preliminary and permanent injunctive relief.

Sirok said the plaintiffs are not requesting the court's consideration in issuing a TRO or other injunctive relief prior to the scheduled hearing date on the motion on Aug. 12, 2016.

Following the parties' request for approval of briefing schedule, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona set the TRO hearing for Aug. 12 at 1:30pm and ordered defendants to file opposition, if any, on or before Aug. 6. Plaintiffs' reply to the opposition, if any, shall be filed on or before Aug. 10.

CUC and its 13 foreign

workers affected by CW-1 cap setting system are suing U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Charles Johnson, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Sarah R. Saldana, and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Director Leon Rodriguez.

Plaintiffs CUC and the foreign workers, through Sirok, alleged that the failure of USCIS to make a determination on the CW renewal petitions violates the Administrative Procedure Act.

The plaintiff alleged that they have suffered a legal wrong because of the conduct of defendants DHS and USCIS in setting the annual CW-1 caps for fiscal years 2013 through 2016.

Sirok said CUC will be adversely affected by the loss of these CW-1 workers in its ability to maintain and operate its power generation facilities on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Sirok asked the court to declare that the failure of USCIS to render a determination on the CW-1 renewal petitions for the 13 workers was unlawful, contrary to law and in violation of plaintiffs' constitutional rights.

He sought court's order to enjoin defendants Johnson, Saldana, and Rodriguez and their subordinate officers and agents from implementing or enforcing or taking any adverse action against CUC and the 13 workers by not allowing the workers to work for the utility agency and instead requiring them to depart the CNMI during the pendency of this lawsuit.

The CW-1 permits for each of the 13 workers expire at different dates during the months for June, July, Au-

gust, and September 2016.

In plaintiffs' motion for TRO filed on Thursday, Sirok said their request is based on the conduct of the USCIS, acting in coordination with the DHS and ICE, in failing to consider CUC's petitions for the renewal of the 13 individually named CW-1 transitional workers and for failing to comply with the requirements of Title VII of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act when it set the annual reduction number for CW-1 transitional workers working the NMI for Fiscal Years 2013 through 2016.

Sirok argued that the CW-1 transitional worker's authorization (licenses) and their inextricably intertwined authorization to work, do not expire until

USCIS makes a formal determination on the respective applications for the renewal of these licenses.

In other words, he said, USCIS may not simply reject the petitions and send them back to CUC without making a formal determination.

Sirok further argued that the CW-1 caps set by DHS for FY 2013 through FY 2016 were not set in accordance the standards and provisions required by Title VII of the CNRA.

Sirok said as a result of the wrongful conduct of these U.S. government entities, CUC and the individually named plaintiffs have suffered and will continue to suffer immediate irreparable harm.

Sirok said they requested a TRO because irreparable harm to plaintiffs has already occurred and that immediate irreparable harm to plaintiffs is ongoing.



Sirok

MVA

From Page 1

flight launches. Airlift is a key for our tourism industry so we welcome these new entrants and look forward to working with them to jointly promote the CNMI overseas," Concepcion told *Saipan Tribune*.

He said the MVA has been working with the said airlines even before they launched their respective inaugural flights to Saipan. Jin Air had its inaugural flight on June 9, while PAL Express followed a week after on June 16, and Hong Kong Express landed on July 7.

"The MVA has been working closely with these airlines well even before these flights were launched and we will continue that partnership going forward," said

Concepcion, who added that they would also put high importance to the other airlines.

We also continue to place high importance on carriers who have been flying to the CNMI for many years. Our relationship with them is critical and will be protected for the foreseeable future," Concepcion said.

Asiana Airlines, Delta Airlines, Jeju Air, and United Airlines are four of the other carriers that had been flying to Saipan from various destinations. Three more air carriers are set to launch its service from secondary cities in Japan, one of which is Dynamic International Airways.

Air Asia, Vanilla Air, t'way, Jeju Air, Jet Asia, Eastar Jet, Jin Air, Air Busan, and Peach are the other Asian LCCs that the three-member Japan Airlift Development

Team—one of MVA's tourism partners in Asia—is targeting.

He added that the development of a casino and a 6-star hotel are some of the new products and destinations that the CNMI will be offering to Japanese tourists. He said these new developments, if completed, would rival those of Tahiti, Bali, and the Maldives.

Kensington Hotel's grand opening is another key as it gives tourists another choice of hotel and at the same time increasing the number of rooms on the island.

"The MVA is very happy with the opening of Kensington Hotel Saipan. This provides additional room inventory for Saipan at a time when occupancy rates at other properties are higher than they've been for many

Specifically, Sirok said, some of the plaintiffs have already been forced to leave the CNMI and others whose CW-1 permits are expiring July and later will be forced to leave the Commonwealth without any chance of their petitions being considered.

CUC employs over 300 workers, including 42 non-resident workers.

Sirok said the foreign workers' work force within CUC is an essential and necessary work force needed for the utility to provide power, water and wastewater utility services to the CNMI.

Sirok said this need is emphasized by the fact that the CNMI governor has continuously, on a 30-day basis over the last several years, executed a special executive order declaring a state of significant emergency involving CUC, thereby allowing the utility to retain and employ these nonresident workers.

Sirok said these executive orders are consistently issued because there are not enough U.S. citizens or U.S. resident technical specialists at CUC to perform the power generation work; particularly specialists with experience in the type of engines that CUC uses at its main power plant.

Sirok said there would be brownouts or area blackouts with the loss of service.

He said the power plants would again degrade, producing more of these outages and the affected foreign workers are technical specialists who perform a variety of highly technical services for CUC at its main power plant on Saipan, with the exception of a senior engineering technician who performs technical services for CUC's water waste water divisions.

"They are specialists in the type of massive power

generation engines which the utility uses to generate power," he said.

Sirok said they are specialists with a combined total of over 91 years of experience at CUC dealing with the utility's actual power generation engines.

Sirok said USCIS rejected without review CUC's petitions for renewal of the workers' respective CW-1

authorizations.

On June 17, 2016, CUC received notices from DHS and USCIS that the CW-1 petitions were returned to CUC without a decision being made.

DHS set the CW-1 caps for FY 2013 at 15,000 and for FY 2014 at 14,000. For FYs 2015 and 2016, the caps were set at 13,999 and 12,999, respectively.

NMPASI closed today

Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI) will be closed today, July 25, from 1pm to 5pm. It will be open from 8am to 1pm that same day. Normal working hours (8am to 5pm) will resume tomorrow, July 26. Thank you very much and we apologize for the inconvenience. (PR)

CARE

From Page 1

face's on Capitol Hill.

It will be followed by SOU' Rise vigil that will take place at sunrise from 5am to 6am the following day, Tuesday, Aug. 2, at the Capitol Hill ballfield next to the Governor's Office. It is open to various religious groups and all the people of the CNMI.

Matua Riders will also take part with a SOU' Ride to Recovery in the morning of Saturday, Aug. 6. The weeklong commemoration will conclude

with a SOU' Fest community celebration on the evening of Aug. 6 from 6pm to 11pm.

The concluding event features free games, entertainment, food vendors, a disaster preparedness information booth, and a karaoke contest at the Garapan Fishing Base.

CARE director Jenny Hegland thanked all identified and anonymous contributors who have been assisting them in every way possible in the island's path to recovery after the typhoon, which left hundreds of island residents homeless.

IMPERIAL

From Page 2

Imperial Pacific made a final payment on the CDA on Jan. 29, 2016, for the month of December 2015.

On Feb. 5, 2016, Imperial Pacific gave Skywalker Communications notice of dissatisfaction with defendant's performance of the designing work.

Dotts said Skywalker Communications did not come within compliance with the CDA within the 30 days' notice period after receiving the Feb. 5, 2016 notice.

Instead, Dotts said, defendant blamed Imperial Pacific for defendant's inability to provide satisfactory work.

On Feb. 26, 2016, Imperial Pacific delivered notice of termination of the CDA to defendant.

"By neglecting, failing, and refusing to perform as required under the SGA and CDA, defendant breached its contracts with plaintiff," Dotts said.

On SGA, Dotts said Skywalker Communications failed to timely and fully form the special groups; failed to develop a plan for internal operation mechanism for effective management and development or organizational structures

of the special groups; failed to clearly identify the project team; failed to put in place a step by step plan to identify key group members for inclusion in the special groups; and the cost charged for organizing the local events once some special groups were formed were significantly higher than actual costs.

On CDA, Dotts said the turn-around speed of design work was too slow; the quality of the design work reflected a lack of understanding of the gaming industry which was reflected in all designs; a lack of Saipan marketing knowledge and experience was reflected in all designs; and the cost charges were too high that most of the designs were variations of the same original concept.

Dotts also noted that lack of Japan and Korean marketing knowledge and experience was evident in the poor design work; the design ideas were not creative; the key staff were not efficient in English communication design ideas; the Chinese interpretation and translation services were unacceptably poor; there were constant duplications of errors in visual adaptations; and there were repeated miscommunication between account service and the creative teams.

Ruben also pleads guilty in federal court to receipt of child porn

Glenn Anthony Mafnas Ruben Jr., a 23-year-old man who recently entered a guilty plea in Superior Court in connection with having sex with his then-14-year-old girlfriend, also pleaded guilty in federal court last week.

Ruben pleaded guilty to the charge of receipt of child pornography.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona accepted Ruben's guilty plea and set the sentencing for Nov. 9, 2016.

Manglona vacated the jury trial set for Aug. 23, 2016.

After the hearing, Ruben was remanded into the custody of the U.S. Marshal.

Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto, counsel for the U.S. government, stated that the agreement for transfer of primary jurisdiction between the Bureau of Prisons and the CNMI had been finalized and has now been forwarded for the signature of the appropriate official in the Bureau of Prisons and then this will be forwarded to Attorney General Edward Manibusan for his signature.

The indictment charged Ruben with transfer of obscene material to a minor, receipt of child pornography, and enticement of a minor.

The indictment also seeks forfeiture of any property that Ruben allegedly used in facilitating the offenses. Attorney Michael Dotts is the court-appointed counsel for Ruben.

According to the indictment, between Dec. 13 and 26, 2015, Ruben used the Internet to knowingly transfer obscene material to a 14-year-old child. Ruben allegedly used the Internet to persuade and entice the child to engage in sexual activity.

Ruben recently entered a guilty plea in Superior Court.

Police said the incident happened in the hallway area of the former fire station in San Roque.

In the Superior Court case, Ruben, through counsel assistant public defender Tillman Clark, signed a plea deal with the government and pleaded guilty to the offense of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho granted Ruben's guilty plea and the plea agreement.

Camacho set the sentencing hearing for Nov. 30, 2016 at 9am.

After the hearing, Ruben was remanded to the custody of the Department of Corrections.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, on Dec. 25, 2015, Ruben, who was then 22 years old, engaged in sex with his then-14-year-old girlfriend on Saipan.

He met her through Facebook. Camacho said Ruben and

the victim were boyfriend and girlfriend at the time (Romeo

and Juliet).

Camacho then disclosed that Ruben is set to plead guilty in federal court to a five-year sen-

tence that will run concurrently with any sentence imposed in the Superior Court case.

Camacho said Ruben will

serve his sentence at the Department of Corrections per the federal plea agreement. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



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Honda Civic LX retail price \$22,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$364.26 or \$168.12 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$21,855.60.
Honda Accord LX retail price \$26,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$427.63 or \$197.37 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$25,657.80.
Honda HR-V LX retail price \$23,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$380.10 or \$175.43 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$22,806.00.
Honda Pilot EX retail price \$38,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 72 monthly payments of \$531.86 or \$245.47 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$38,293.92.

WANTED

NEWS REPORTER

The *Saipan Tribune* is looking for a FULL-TIME news reporter.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Above average writing skills and can work within deadlines;
- Fast learner, self-starter, and a team player;
- Computer literate;
- With photography skills;
- Must have reliable means of transportation.

If you have what it takes to be part of a dynamic team, email your résumé and samples of your work to editor@saipantribune.com. You may also drop it off at the *Saipan Tribune* office on the second floor of the JP Center Building on Beach Road, Garapan. ON-ISLAND HIRES PREFERRED.

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.
Qualified women, minorities, and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.



Commonwealth Development Authority

P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 | Fax: (670) 235-7147
www.developcnmi.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
LEASECOMMERCIAL BUILDING
Lot No. 444-1
SUSUPE, SAIPAN

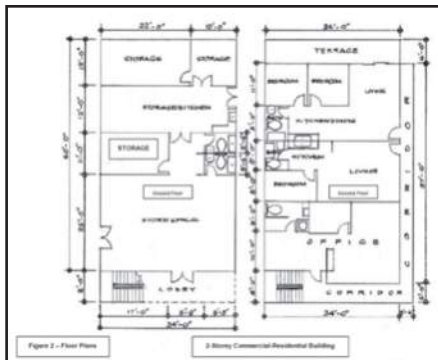
The Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) is seeking proposals from individuals or companies to lease Lot 444-1 and its improvements located in Texas Road, Susupe, Saipan. The total land area is 1,856 square meters. The two-storey, semi-concrete framed building situated on the property has a building area of 3,928.50 square feet.

Terms and Condition of Lease

Property is being leased "AS IS, WHERE IS, WITH ALL FAULTS". All Prospective Lessees are encouraged to visit the property prior to submitting a proposal and are asked to contact Mr. Oscar C. Camacho, Loan Manager at ext. 306 to schedule an appointment. Prospective Lessee must rely on its own investigation and review of the physical, environmental, economic use, compliance, and legal conditions of the Property.

Proposal should include the following information:

- Proposed lease amount and term not to exceed fifteen (15) years
- Name, address and telephone number of contact person.



Proposals entitled "PROPOSAL - SUSUPE COMMERCIAL BUILDING" must be received by 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 31, 2016 and should be addressed to:

Mr. Manuel A. Sablan
Executive Director
Commonwealth Development Authority
P.O. Box 502149
Saipan, MP 96950

Lease will be awarded to the individual or company with the offer most beneficial to CDA.

The CDA reserves the right: (1) to cancel this Notice at any time for any reason (2) to accept or reject any and all proposals and (3) to request additional information prior to or upon the final selection of a Lessee.

Seed money found to launch local canoe and voyaging program

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Seed money has been proposed as part of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' budget submission to the Legislature to kick start a Chamorro and Carolinian canoe voyaging program, one that would be a long time coming and the first of its kind under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, according to DCCA Secretary Robert Hunter.

Hunter, along with DCCA division heads, discussed their department budget with members of the House committee on fiscal affairs Thursday. The new canoe program, proposed under the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture, was one topic of discussion.

During the budget hearing, House fiscal chair Rep. Antonio Sablan (Ind-Saipan) pointed out a "significant increase" in full-time equivalent employees, amounting to some \$205,000 in costs that would roughly increase current funding for the arts council from \$217,851 to \$550,211, or an increase of around \$332,000.

Sablan asked for the "function" of these new employees and funding and Hunter noted that a coordinator specialist and two trade helpers were for the new canoe initiative. Hunter added this came as part of the supplemental budget, which was submitted by Torres this July.

The arts council, for its part, has zero funding from its main federal grantor, the National Endowment for the Arts, until at the earliest 2018, after failing to submit required documents and ongoing management concerns, among others.

Hunter, though, would not characterize Torres' significant increase in funding as a "subsidy" for this loss, when asked.

"...There is a bit of it that we will use to do regular, traditional programming like exhibits, performance arts activities, and things of that nature," he told *Saipan Tribune* of the funding. "A larger portion of that money is going to be used for a totally new program, canoe and navigation."

"We want to make sure we take advantage of the people that remain, that have this base

of knowledge," he added.

Hunter noted that the Palau Community College has a navigation program as part of their credit course offerings. That hasn't happened here, he said, though not for lack of trying with the local college. He said they want to "utilize these resources, these personnel resources," referring to local navigators.

"These guys that are the few left doing this...bring not an accredited program but bring a similar program here to see our own people learn how to construct canoes, learn traditional navigational techniques," he said.

It's not only about perpetuating this important aspect to indigenous culture, he said, but it also can cause interest from around the world.

He said ancient maritime history dovetails easily and when a visitor comes to the CNMI, it should be part of their experience to see canoes, "to go and see construction of canoes."

"We are kind of starting this program from scratch but we have a lot of good people... But the seed money is there now. This is what we need," he said.

The DCCA secretary acknowledged that Torres expressed direct interest in starting the program, noting recent popular canoe activities from last month's Festival of the Pacific Arts.

"This perpetuation of this very important part of both Chamorro and Carolinian culture is important to him," Hunter said. "We've tried for decades for money to do this. As someone who used to run the arts council, who's been involved in coordinating canoe voyages many years ago. For a long time, it was like pulling teeth to do these, they are costly activities."

NEA follow up

Asked for any further talks between the National Endowment for the Arts and DCCA on funding, Hunter said there was "really no give and take."

"We need to submit some descriptive reports and wait until Jan. 22, 2018 [the next date of eligibility after grants were lost]" he said.

He said the descriptive reports would include detail financial information and others over the next year and a half with regard to staffing.

As for the financial information, Hunter said these were information that was supposed to be submitted after the grant period but weren't.

"All of this is required before we are eligible again, even though there is a set date for that eligibility [2018], if we do not turn these materials into them, we still won't be eligible."

"We are just trying to get all that in order," he said.

During the budget hearing, House vice speaker Rep. Joseph Leapan Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) inquired about the status of the grant and asked it would be reinstated.

"My greatest challenge," arts council director Angel Hocog told lawmakers Thursday, "is having adequate staff and adequate training so we can properly bring the programs forward...so we can meet all the financial requirements that are imposed to any branch that we may in the future apply such as the NEA."

"My greatest challenge is having the adequate staff and appropriate training," he further noted. He also stated appreciation for former DCCA secretary Laura Ogomoro in bringing the program where it is today.

In May, NEA wrote to Torres to reiterate its stand that the arts council would be ineligible for funding from the national body up through 2018, apparently because, among other things, the council submitted its grant application using the wrong form, and because of ongoing concerns with the council's management.

Hunter told *Saipan Tribune* in June that they were working to meet all of the requirements that have been set forth by the NEA and its inspector general, which includes the submission of complete reports and will address the management issues.

He said then that the NEA and especially their inspector general were not confident that federal funds would be properly managed

Navy to conduct training at W-517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 July 25-27 from noon to 10pm and July 28 from 3:30pm to 6:30pm.

The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour opera-

tors—are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-

west in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055/3209. (PR)

Maturana Sisters's aid reaches close to \$50K

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The money that would help rebuild the Maturana House of Prayer reached close to \$50,000 with the Saipan Fishermen Association the latest group to donate to the Mercedarian Missionaries of Bériz, which runs the facility in Navy Hill.

The House of Maturana hosts a lot of events and programs not only for Catholics but also for other Christian groups in the community. The facility also doubles as the retirement home for members of the Mercedarian Sisters in the CNMI.

The SFA donated \$800 to the Rotary Club of Saipan, which is leading the efforts to repair and improve the facilities at House of Maturana that was damaged by Typhoon Soudelor last year. Sisters Maris Stella Ifenuk and Martha Ramarui were present to accept the check.

The check presentation was held during the Saipan Rotary Club's meeting last July 12 at the Giovanni's restaurant at the Hyatt Regency Saipan where Ifenuk and Ramarui have been regular guests since seeking the club's help early this year.

The SFA collected the money from the raffle tickets sold in the banquet of the 32nd Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament held last

July 10 and 11.

This brings the amount to a total of \$49,400, not including the other monetary pledges and materials support made by other businesses, groups, and individuals. Northern Marianas Trades Institute carpentry and construction students will lend their skills in repairing the facilities.

Hyatt Regency donated \$26,500 from the proceeds of its annual Saipan Charity Golf Classic last April, while the Guam Rotary Clubs (Rotary Club of Guam, Rotary Club of Tumon Bay, and the Rotary Club of Northern Guam) raised \$16,500.

The Saipan Rotary has pledged \$5,000 of the money collected in several of their fundraising events, while an additional \$600 was given from a bet made by vice president Brian Clayton, who said that he would shave his head if the amount is raised impromptu.

The money was raised during their meeting held last May 17 with president Ivan Ilmov, former president Curtis Dancoe, Mike Dilly, Mike Sablan, Pete Schilling, and Mario Valentino donated \$100 each.

The Rotary Club also collected \$150 from its July 12 meeting that they gave to the Boy Scouts, which is being revived by Wayne Gillespie.

The Saipan Rotary is known to support various community events, in line with the interna-

tional organization's Service Above Self motto.

The Rotary International, behind president John

F. Germ, is continuing the world's efforts to eradicate polio in our lifetime. Germ also chose Rotary Serving

Humanity as his theme for his term as head of one of the world's biggest non-profit organizations.

Serenity Salon & Spa Early Bird Special

From 10:00am to 1:00pm

Men's Hair Cut \$8-\$5.00

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mercedarian Missionaries of Bériz Sisters Maris Stella Ifenuk, second left, and Martha Ramarui hold the check donated to the Rotary Club of Saipan by the Saipan Fishermen Association. Others in photo, from left, are Saipan Rotary president Ivan Ilmov and former president Curtis Dancoe.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP16-OPA-148**

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 03, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**"SINGLE AUDIT OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT AND THE
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION (CHCC)
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016"**

THE AUDIT GUIDELINES AND SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE PUBLIC AUDITOR'S MAIN OFFICE AT 1236 YAP DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M., MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, EXCEPT HOLIDAYS.

INQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO MR. DAVID BLAKE, OPA AUDIT MANAGER, AT TELEPHONE NUMBERS (670) 322-6481/2 OR BY FACSIMILE TO (670) 322-7812.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ MICHAEL PAI, CPA
PUBLIC AUDITOR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

8TH ANNUAL

JP Memorial

GLOW RUN

& HEALTH FAIR

Tan Siu Lin
Foundation

JULY 30, 2016 5PM

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5K

QUARTER MASTER

3K

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GARAPAN FISHING BASE

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\$10

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TICKET GET ONE FREE RAFFLE TICKET WHEN YOU REGISTER AND

★ **GET A CHANCE TO WIN** ★

ONE ROUNDTRIP TICKET TO THE PHILIPPINES, PRIZES AT FIESTA, KANOA, CENTURY HOTEL, D&Q, COSMOS, LET'S GO TOUR, AND SHIRLEY'S COFFEE SHOP!!!

(ADDITIONAL RAFFLE TICKET: \$5 EACH)

PLUS!

MORE GLOW ACCESSORIES (BRACELETS, AVIATOR GLASSES, NECKLACES, LIGHT UP BEAR, ETC) ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT!

In memory of John "JP" Pangelinan, the former publisher of the Saipan Tribune. JP left us eight years ago but his memory will remain indelible for those who have been lucky enough to know him. Whether as a colleague, a friend, an uncle, or dad, JP was the quintessential gentleman, full of compassion, good cheer, and always smiling. JP was born on Saipan on October 26, 1937. He died on February 5, 2008 after a long, brave battle with cancer.

Name _____

Date of birth _____

Male ☐ Female ☐

Contact number _____

FILL OUT THIS PORTION AND DROP IT OFF AT

2nd Floor JP Center Bldg, Beach Road, Garapan

Tel: (670) 235-0561 ext. 159

Look for Eunice Angeles





Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW/COTA/FTA-16-IFB-016

SUPPLY, INSTALLATION OF BUS STOP SIGNBOARD & CONSTRUCTION OF COTA TRANSIT (BUS) PADS

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW), Executing Agency and Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA), Expenditure Authority are soliciting sealed bids for the **Supply, Installation of Bus Stop Signboards & Construction of COTA Transit (Bus) Pads**, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **July 22, 2016** at the Department of Public works, Technical Services Division, 2nd floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capital Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **August 8, 2016, 9:00 a.m. local time** at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **August 16, 2016 to Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 p.m. to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon, recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgement of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW/COTA/FTA-16-IFB-016"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capital Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **August 26, 2016**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **August 26, 2016**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via email to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **August 26, 2016** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **September 08, 2016**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building 1301, Capital Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, September 13, 2016**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m. local time, August 26, 2016**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.**

Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations §70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- 1) Cash
- 2) US Gov't Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Eighty (180) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred Dollars (US\$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date. All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ ALFREDA P. CAMACHO
Special Assistant for Public Transportation

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

CCDF Program finally launches pilot QRIS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Attendees of the Child Care and Development Fund's launch of the pilot Quality Rating and Improvement System pose for a group photo.

The Quality Rating and Improvement System or QRIS is a method to assess, improve, and communicate the level of quality in early care and education and after-school settings.


As part of its ongoing high quality early care and education initiative, the Child Care and Development Fund or CCDF Program officially launched the Pilot QRIS on July 18, 2016, with an orientation of eight license center-based pro-

viders at the Pedro P. Teno-rio Multi-Purpose Hall.


A total of 46 directors, lead teachers, and caregiv-ers participated in this one and half hour presentation. The orientation was head-ed by Evergreen Learning Inc.'s program manager Dr. Jasmin Jones who provided information on the standards and tools that will be used for the pilot. For this pilot initia-tive, the focus will be on in-fants, toddlers, and preschool classrooms. The pilot activi-

ty will run from July 2016 to May 2017.

Department of Communi-ty and Cultural Affairs repre-sentatives present at this ori-entation included Child Care Licensing Program supervi-sor Annie Santos, Licensing staff Leilani Marciano and Gregoria Somol, and Child Care and Development Fund Program administrator Mari-bel Loste, CCDF accountant Roselle Teregeyo, and CCDF health and safety inspector Rita Olopai. **(PR)**



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-16-IFB-017

REPAIR AND RENOVATION OF THE ADA GYMNASIUM

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Repair and Renovation of the ADA Gymnasium**, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **July 25, 2016** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/ Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Mandatory Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **August 15, 2016, 9:00 a.m. local time** at Project Site, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **August 17, 2016 to Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgement of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-16-IFB-017"**. For bidders within the CNMI, and original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, September 07, 2016**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, September 07, 2016**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **September 07, 2016** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **September 16, 2016**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, September 20, 2016**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on September 07, 2016**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations §70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the SNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on the other bond obligations) exceeded the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- 1) Cash
- 2) US Gov't Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Eighty (180) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US \$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date. All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE
USED EQUIPMENT
CPA-PAN-001-16

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority will sell at Public Auction, August 2, 2016 at 3:00 PM used equipment at the ARFF Building Facility, Saipan International Airport. The equipment listing is available beginning July 18, 2016 at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

All costs associated in the removal, dismantling of the equipment shall be borne by the successful bidder. Bidders are requested to inspect the equipment by contacting Mr. Joey Sablan at telephone number 288-0091, Monday to Friday, 08:00 am to 5:00 pm.

The equipment will be sold “As Is” and “Where Is” and without Warranty. The successful bidder is required to pay 20% down payment on acceptance of bid. Balance shall be payable at the CPA Accounting Office, Saipan International Airport within 5 calendar days from auction closing date. Bidder shall only remove the equipment from the airport premises upon full payment of bid price. Failure to pay will result in the forfeiture of the down payment and equipment. Payment shall be in cash, cashier’s check, or money order payable to CPA.

CPA assumes no responsibility for any costs incurred by bidder’s in their preparation of the bids.

Inquiries may be directed to the Procurement Officer, Mr. Alex C. Tudela at telephone number 237-6563.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Christopher S. Tenorio
Acting Executive Director

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Workforce Investment Agency Division

Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act

2016 Summer Youth Employment Training Program Qualifiers

SAIPAN SYETP QUALIFIERS

Orientation, Meet Your Employer, & Work Readiness Workshop on
Wednesday, JULY 27, 2016 8:00am-5:00pm at the Multi-Purpose Center
ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY FOR ALL QUALIFIERS

1	Agulto, Ramon Jose R.	Field Technician Trainee	DLNR-Division of Agriculture
2	Aguon, Mayleen Ann T.	Sales Associate Trainee	iShop-Fiesta/Paseo
3	Aguon, Tiannah Marise T.	Front Desk Clerk Trainee	Serenti Hotel
4	Agustin, Sherwin M. Jr.	Housekeeping Coordinator Trainee	Fiesta Resort & Spa
5	Alarzar, Jan Rae M.	Front Desk Clerk Trainee	Capital Hotel
6	Alarzar, John Ralph M.	Environmental Trainee	BECC-Safe Drinking Water Branch
7	Aldan, Jeraldo M.	Office Assistant Trainee	Office of Representative Glenn L. Maratita
8	Amandus, Tyrol	Historic Preservation Aide Trainee	DCCA-HPO
9	Ancheta, Sean Aaron P.	Administrative Clerk Trainee	Coral Ocean Golf Resort
10	Atalig, Francisco Jose A.	Compliance Clerk Trainee	DPL-Compliance Division
11	Atan, Albert B.	File Clerk Trainee	CHCC-HMD
12	Azarcon, Doreen May V.	Program Assistant Trainee	NMC-Office of Dean of Student Services
13	Babauta, Daenisha Lynn L.	Account Clerk Trainee	CHCC-Collection Office
14	Babauta, Regiene Avegail B.	Ancillary Services Clerk Trainee	CHCC-Radiology & Laboratory
15	Babauta, Tarrence Christian S.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	PSS-CNMI Americorps Program
16	Babauta, Vinae S.	Office Assistant Trainee	Office of the Presiding Judge-Superior Court
17	Barrozo, Christine Mae M.	Office Assistant Trainee	PSS-Human Resources
18	Bautista, Lebalyn Rochina I.	Administrative Assistant Trainee (Seaport)	DOF-Division of Custom Services
19	Bunusek, Jang J.	Public Area Attendant Trainee	Pacific Islands Club
20	Cabrera, Jonathan John A.	Receptionist Trainee	Northern Islands Mayor's Office
21	Cabrera, Jovahnayn Nicole	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DCCA-CCDF Program
22	Camacho, Anthony C. Jr.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DLNR-Division of Agriculture
23	Camacho, Willdon B.	Field Technician Trainee	DLNR-Division of Agriculture
24	Castro, Jesse James F.	Office Clerk Trainee	Office of Representative Ramon A. Tebuteb
25	Cruz, David Jesse M.	Customs Trainee (Seaport)	DOF-Division of Custom Services
26	Cucal, Vossinni D.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	NMC-School of Education
27	Dela Trinidad, Camela A.	Front Desk Clerk Trainee	Fiesta Resort & Spa
28	Demapan, Natividad M.	Administrative Assistant Trainee (Seaport)	DOF-Division of Custom Services
29	Dionisio, Fredrick Kyle K.	Historic Preservation Aide Trainee	DLNR-HPO
30	Duenas, Leyalanni Lynn A.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Bridge Capital, LLC
31	Elias, Isak JR R.	Office Clerk Trainee	DCCA-NAP
32	Eniser, Jason Michael	Room Attendant Trainee	Pacific Islands Club
33	Esner, Kerolynn C.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	NMC-Office of Dean of Academic Programs & Services
34	Esner, Krysner C.	Computer Lab Aide Trainee	NMC-Computer Lab
35	Fitipol, Miguel Keoni DLR	Stocker Trainee	Joeten Kagman
36	Fitipol, Mikayla Elizabeth DLR	Clerk Trainee	DCCA-Office of the Secretary
37	Gideon, Ginger Rae K.	Operations Documentation Clerk Trainee	Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc.
38	Hayag, Camille M.	Office Assistant Trainee	Chambers of the Associate Judge-Superior Court
39	Hayag, Christine Sofia M.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Office of the Public Defender
40	Higgins, Bennett Jane T.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Office of the Public Defender
41	Higgins, Jennifer Jasmine T.	Office Assistant Trainee	Office of the Clerk of Court-Supreme Court
42	Hiroichi, Keoki Nathaniel M.	Sales Representative Trainee	MARPAC
43	Hong, Sherene Marie F.	Guest Service Agent Trainee	Kanoa Resort
44	Iderbei, Jovanny R.	File Clerk Trainee	Marianas Resort & Spa
45	Iderbei, Lennox R.	Terminal Documentation Clerk Trainee	Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc.
46	Ikbai, Rocksana S.	Office Assistant Trainee	Commonwealth Records Office-Superior Court
47	Ilo, Lian Merced	Library Aide Trainee	Joeten-Kiyu Public Library
48	Jaimatoon, Manny P.	Administrative Assistant Trainee (Seaport)	DOF-Division of Custom Services
49	John, BJ R.	Office Aide Trainee	PSS-WSR Elementary School
50	Johnney, Keteny I.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc.
51	Johnney, Memoria May I.	Gift Shop Attendant Trainee	Aqua Resort Club
52	Kaainoa, Joelyn Deann M.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	CUC-Human Resource Office
53	Kaipat, Clayton Jean M.	Office & Library Assistant Trainee	PSS-GTC Elementary
54	Kapileo, Kurt Kyle T.	IT Clerk Trainee	CHCC-Information Technology
55	Kasian, Roca I.	Library Aide Trainee	Joeten-Kiyu Public Library
56	Keremen, Miekio Reikonin H.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Toothworks
57	Kirby, Justine Rain L.	Reservations Agent Trainee	Fiesta Resort & Spa
58	Kukkun, Kevin C.	Vital Statistics Clerk Trainee	DPH-Vital Statistics
59	Maras, Keyreen E.	Customer Service Clerk Trainee	Star Marianas Air
60	Maras, Mayralyn E.	Office Clerk Trainee	DCCA-NAP
61	Maras, Russko RJ E.	Administrative Clerk Trainee	Commonwealth Ports Authority
62	Maratita, Anabeata C.	Accounting Assistant Trainee	Century Tours-Kanoa Resort
63	Maratita, Donnina C.	Sales Associate Trainee	iShop-Kanoa Resort
64	Mendiola, Maureen Shanel S.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Board of Parole
65	Michael, James K.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	No Ka Oi Termite & Pest Control Inc
66	Moses, Brandon Lee S.	NCD Clerk Trainee	DPH-NCD
67	Muna, Camille Holoann G.	Salesperson/Stocker Trainee	Ace Hardware (San Vicente)
68	Nemek, Brandon R.	Front Desk Clerk Trainee	Sun Palace Hotel
69	Nikiti, Teipo A.	Office Assistant Trainee	Chambers of the Justices-Supreme Court
70	Niro, Deiny	Administrative Assistant Trainee	CUC-Billing/Financial Accounts Management
71	Noble, Christine Anne T.	Office Aide Trainee	PSS-WSR Elementary School
72	Norech, Kaystone KN	Ports Police Trainee	Commonwealth Ports Authority
73	Ogo, Keoni Donovan R.	Customs Trainee (Airport)	DOF-Division of Custom Services
74	Pangelinan, Roxanna Jerlyn	Office Aide Trainee	PSS-San Vicente Elementary
75	Peter, Christina Fred	Office Assistant Trainee	Marianas Star Corporation
76	Peter, Fred D.	Real Estate Clerk Trainee	DPL-Real Estate Division
77	Peter, Tenela W.	Customer Service Agent Trainee	Century Tours-Kanoa Resort
78	Quimson, Shiela Marie E.	Daycare Teacher Assistant Trainee	Holy Angel Childcare & Learning Center
79	Rabaulman, Joseph Roy N.	Field Technician Trainee	DLNR-Division of Agriculture
80	Remarii, Antonia Marie C.	Office Assistant Trainee	Office of Senator Steve K. Mesngon
81	Reyes, Asunsion S.	Office Clerk Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Saipan
82	Reyes, Izalaina S.	Stocker Trainee	Joeten Dandan
83	Reyes, Jerrilyn Jane C.	Eligibility Worker Trainee	CHCC-Billing Office
84	Reyes, Matthew S.	Compliance Clerk Trainee	DPL-Compliance Division
85	Ripis, Resemin C.	Merchandise Trainee	MARPAC
86	Rudolph, Hanson Sam T.	Purchasing Assistant Trainee	Kanoa Resort
87	Sablan, Victoria Tinag D.	Office Clerk Trainee	Office of Representative Glenn L. Maratita
88	Salvosa, Kyle Tyrus James L.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Office of the Public Defender
89	Somorang, Patrick H.	Customs Trainee (Seaport)	DOF-Division of Custom Services
90	Songcuan, Lizelle Aubrey M.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	NMC-Counseling Program & Services
91	Taitano, Benjamin T.	Field Technician Trainee	DLNR-Division of Agriculture
92	Taitano, Enrique Jose N.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Board of Parole
93	Taitano, Kyle Brian D.	Office Assistant Trainee	Office of Senator Steve K. Mesngon
94	Taitano, Shanalyn N.	Office Clerk Trainee	DCCA-CCLPC
95	Takai, Britney C.	Office Aide Trainee	DPW-Administrative Services Division
96	Takai, Jovi C.	Office Clerk Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Saipan
97	Talibong, Paula Rose G.	Office Assistant Trainee	Transpacific International, Inc.-TII Office
98	Taman, Derek S.	Front Desk Clerk Trainee	Marianas Ink
99	Taman, Jason S.	Administrative Clerk Trainee	CHCC-Hospital Administration
100	Tereyama, Pollyanna C.	Administrative Assistant Trainee (Seaport)	DOF-Division of Custom Services
101	They, Finson O.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	CUC-Billing/Financial Accounts Management
102	They, Theyvin O.	Ports Police Trainee	Commonwealth Ports Authority
103	They, TyvieAnn Murray O.	Customer Service Clerk Trainee	Star Marianas Air

SAIPAN SYETP QUALIFIERS

Orientation, Meet Your Employer, & Work Readiness Workshop on
Wednesday, JULY 27, 2016 8:00am-5:00pm at the Multi-Purpose Center
ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY FOR ALL QUALIFIERS

104	Tippingeni, Rechina S.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Ayuda Network, Inc.
105	Tomei, Ramney O.	Housekeeper Trainee	Holiday Saipan Resort
106	Tomei, Rodlee O.	Stock Clerk Trainee	Dollar Days Wholesale
107	Valentine, Tommynick V.	Front Desk Clerk Trainee	Coral Ocean Golf Resort
108	Villagomez, Michael Jay	Office Aide Trainee	PSS-WSR Elementary School

LUNCH IS NOT PROVIDED

TINIAN SYETP QUALIFIERS

Orientation, Meet Your Employer, & Work Readiness Workshop on
Friday, JULY 29, 2016 9:00am-3:00pm at the Northern Marianas College
ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY FOR ALL QUALIFIERS

1	Acollador, Akiko Ann A.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
2	Aldan, Ha'ani K.	**TBD	**TBD
3	Aldan, Tasi K.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
4	Ancheta, Jovilyn Cynthia M.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
5	Anore, Peter John D.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
6	Atalig, Themica Moesha	**TBD	**TBD
7	Barcinas, Kenya Jade A.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	NMC Tinian
8	Bautista, Marco Kean M.	Stock Clerk Trainee	Tinian Ice & Water
9	Borja, Carmina Jo E.	**TBD	**TBD
10	Borja, Percia Marie A.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
11	Borja, Sherrizade Jo E.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
12	Cabrera, John Jerick T.	Building Safety Code Assistant Trainee	DPW-Building Safety Code Division
13	Carreon, Phoebe Caye A.	Clerk Trainee	BECC-DCRM
14	Clamor, Lisa Nicole P.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
15	Cruz, Jermimah Edith C.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
16	Dela Cruz, Aila Dina M.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
17	Dela Cruz, Jesus Francisco S.	**TBD	**TBD
18	Dela Cruz, Linley Luke S.	Waiter Trainee	JC Café
19	Dela Cruz, Marley Manuel S.	**TBD	**TBD
20	Fleming, Dylan Thomas T.	**TBD	**TBD
21	Flores, Keyla B.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
22	Flores, Kyle B.	**TBD	**TBD
23	Hofschneider, Edwin Jesus M.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
24	Hofschneider-King, Kiara M.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
25	King, Juanis Jr. II B.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
26	King, Marlena Briana A.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
27	Lizama, Kianalin S.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
28	Mahilum, Lesley A.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
29	Manglona, Pedro Jesus A.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
30	Manibusan, Cumi Jake DLR	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
31	Manibusan, Floicla DLR.	Sales Clerk Trainee	Tinian Ice & Water
32	Manibusan, Viana T.	Community Worker Trainee	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan
33	Maratita, Keanalyn Kelsey A.	**TBD	**TBD
34	Maratita, Victoria Susana A.	Waitress Trainee	JC Café
35	Mendiola Kristina Juliette B.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	NMC Tinian
36	Pua, Drake Dominic M.	**TBD	**TBD
37	San Nicolas, Alisa B.	**TBD	**TBD
38	San Nicolas, Henry Ray DLC	**TBD	**TBD
39	San Nicolas, Stefan Fritz DLC	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Department of Public Works
40	Santos, Tyler Kaine H.	**TBD	**TBD
41	Soliva, Marc Dean S.	**TBD	**TBD
42	Taitano, Amisha Ann B.	Waitress Trainee	JC Café
43	Taitano, Robeen Jane B.	Computer Lab Tech Trainee	NMC Tinian-Computer Lab

**TBD-To be determined. Placements will be provided during the Orientation.

LUNCH IS NOT PROVIDED

ROTA SYTEP QUALIFIERS

Orientation, Meet Your Employer, & Work Readiness Workshop on
Thursday, JULY 28, 2016 9:30am-4:00pm at the Northern Marianas College
ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY FOR ALL QUALIFIERS

1	Apatang, Darcia Dee H.	Receptionist Trainee	DOF-Administration Section
2	Atalig, Onria Nicole	Accounting Trainee	DOF-Division of Finance & Accounting
3	Bapari, Kiara Michelle M.	Library Aide Trainee	PSS-DRHJSHS
4	Cabrera, Antonio John B.	Mechanic Helper Trainee	Department of Public Works
5	Candia, Jennilyn M.	Stock Clerk Trainee	Lucky Store
6	Candia, Jezzell M.	Waitstaff Trainee	Kin & Rit Incorporated
7	Clitar, Loreville DLC	Cashier Trainee	Lucky Store
8	Deleon Guerrero, Vicente P.	Sports Development Trainee	DCCA-Sports & Recreation Division
9	Hocog, Keonie E.	Historic Preservation Trainee	DCCA-Historic Preservation Division
10	Jingco, Mary Heather B.	Supply Trainee	DOF-Division of Procurement & Supply
11	Kani, Kekoa Leo A.	Sports Development Trainee	DCCA-Sports & Recreation Division
12	Lizama, Austin Dre A.	Stock Clerk Trainee	Harvest Market
13	Lizama, Daniel R.	Construction Inspector Trainee	Department of Public Works
14	Lizama, Ignacio V. Jr II	Compliance Specialist Trainee	Department of Public Lands
15	Lizama, Pauline Benett R.	Cashier Trainee	Lucky Two Mart
16	Lizama, Ronald M.	Historic Preservation Trainee	DCCA-Historic Preservation Division
17	Lizama, Va'ina Rhe A.	Cashier Trainee	Lucky Store
18	Manglona III, Roman M.	Customs Trainee	DOF-Division of Custom Services
19	Manglona, Catherine L.	Bookkeeper Trainee	Kin & Rit Incorporated
20	Manglona, Randall A.	Mechanic Helper Trainee	Department of Public Works
21	Manglona, Virginia Roslin A.	Administrative Aide Trainee	Marianas Visitors Authority
22	Maratita, Allen Jude A.	Stock Clerk Trainee	Lucky Store
23	Maratita, Roddy M.	Sports Development Trainee	DCCA-Sports & Recreation Division
24	Masga, Darlene P.	Cashier Trainee	Lucky Two Mart
25	Masga, Josefa Renee P.	Office Aide Trainee	PSS-DRHJSHS
26	Masga, Ronierick S.	Stock Clerk Trainee	3Kings Too
27	Mendiola, Chrisher Jade B.	Historic Preservation Trainee	DCCA-Historic Preservation Division
28	Ogo Jr, Fabian B.	Tax Trainee	DOF-Division of Revenue & Taxation
29	Ogo, Don C.	Stock Clerk Trainee	Lucky Two Mart
30	Ogo, Tiana Hope T.	Office Clerk Trainee	Department of Public Works
31	Poll, Melberson H.	Stock Clerk Trainee	3Kings Market
32	Quichocho Jr, Michael M.	Historic Preservation Trainee	DCCA-Historic Preservation Division
33	Richards, David Adan M.	Stock Clerk Trainee	Lucky Two Mart
34	Santos, Mariah D.	Front Desk Clerk Trainee	Coral Garden Hotel

LUNCH IS NOT PROVIDED

Opinion

Hafa Adail

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Trump's acceptance speech was deluded and disturbing

Donald Trump was true to form Thursday in his speech accepting the Republican Party's nomination for president of the United States. He stoked fears by painting a dark, dystopian image of a country overwhelmed by violent crime and under siege by illegal immigrants. He made pie-in-the-sky promises that were divorced from both reality and rationality. He called for a new era of isolationism in which America would retreat from the world order that generations of citizens sacrificed so much to build and sustain. And beyond the slogan he never tires of repeating, he offered no sense of faith in America's great strengths.

In short: It was the most disturbing, demagogic and deluded acceptance speech by any major party nominee in the modern political era. It's no wonder so many Republicans — including Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas and Ohio Gov. John Kasich — are refusing to endorse Trump. When the idea of "voting your conscience" becomes a source of division within a party, something is terribly wrong.

The primary election campaign made clear that Republicans are looking for a miracle worker, but with none in the field, they opted for the snake-oil salesman instead. Trump pitches himself as an ultra-successful businessman, but scratching the story's surface makes clear that it is — like so many others he tells — a mirage. At a time when the U.S. needs a prudent and responsible manager, Trump most emphatically does not fit the bill.

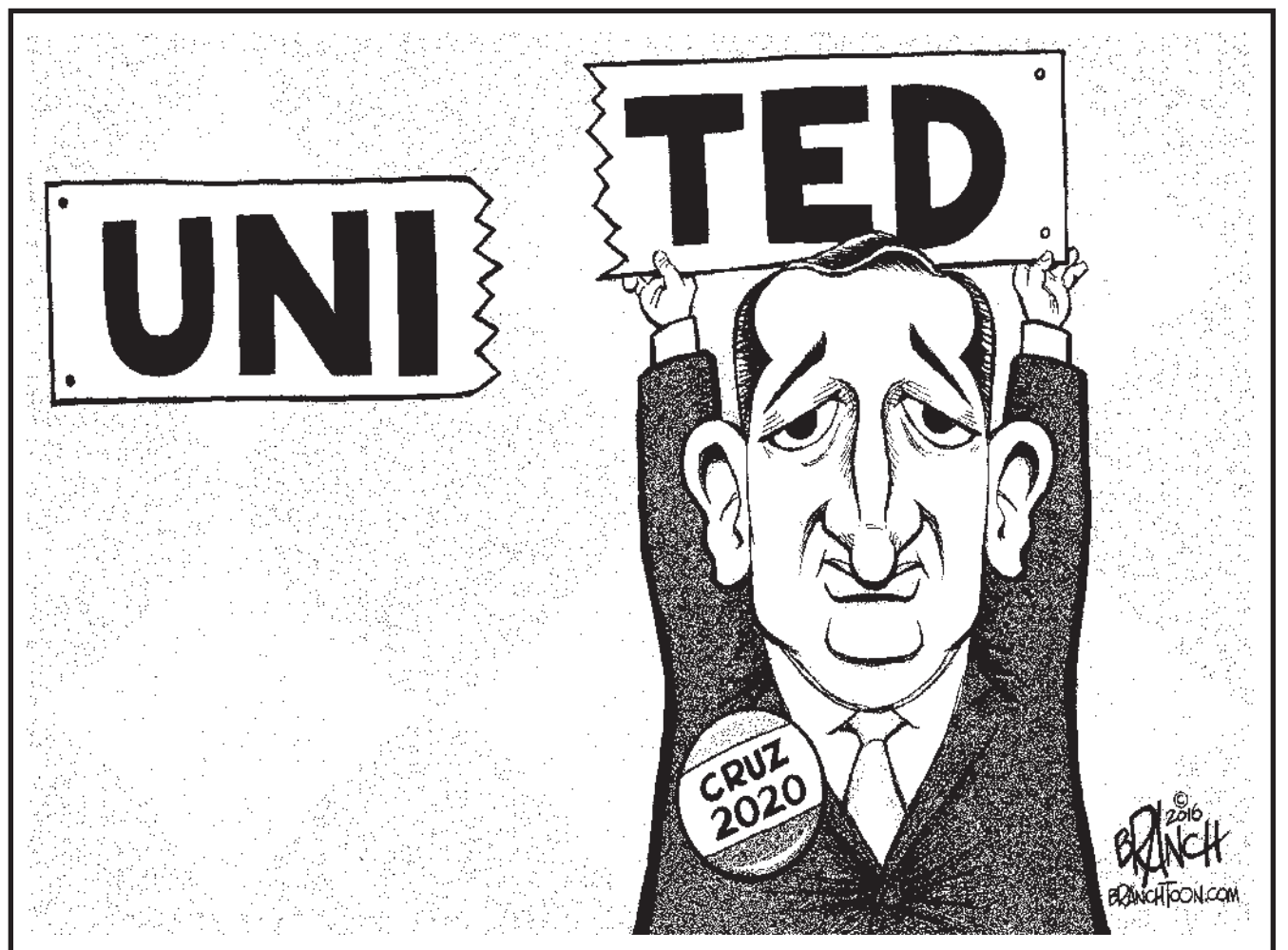
Over the past year, he has run a campaign that has been almost entirely devoid of substance and full of ill-conceived and ill-considered ideas. Just this week, for example, Trump indicated he would be willing to abandon America's commitment to its European allies in NATO. That ironclad principle — an attack on any member country is an attack on all — was essential to victory in the Cold War and it remains essential to discouraging Russia and other countries from disrupting the era of peace and democracy that has spread across Europe.

Trump's speech identified a few real problems: crumbling infrastructure, failing schools, excessive regulation, increasing safety concerns, high health-care costs. But, as on the campaign trail, he offered almost no details on how he would tackle them. Instead, he just preached doom and gloom.

Trump's campaign manager indicated that the speech would evoke Richard Nixon's 1968 acceptance speech, in which Nixon portrayed a country at the brink of chaos. It did, and not just by repeatedly using the phrase "law and order."

But the speech was more reflective of a line uttered by Nixon's Vice President Spiro Agnew, who said: "We have more than our share of nattering nabobs of negativism." That's still true. And now there is one at the top of the Republican ticket.

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CK's Koguryo town

There are not many Korea towns outside of Korea and Yanbian (Korea-in-China). We mostly hear of China-towns around the world (about 200 of them, one is told) though the one in Honolulu is now predominantly Vietnamese. I have yet to hear of a Japan town though Hawaii is often referred to as a Nippon Prefecture; Korea towns emerged since after WWII with the determined pride the Koreans wore up their sleeves on both sides of the 38th parallel.

It is actually a new 7-story building and of the 60 rooms, to my knowledge, a few of Philippine descent (moi us one of them), a Chuukese and her son of the Micronesians, three Chinese, four Japanese, and the rest, Koreans. That is a one big Guryo town!

A lawyer friend asked me to check out a Korean name, the person claimed to reside in the place and wrote it as the address; the person in the front office who knows the 60 families by name never heard of nor seen the name before. It could just be one of the young Koreans in town who lives in the building but with someone else, and uses the address to establish residence, not an uncommon practice, though, perhaps, not a legal one to residency guidelines, or U.S. immigration.

In 1972, I spent two months in Suwon outside of Seoul, where the place blossomed with plum and peach orchards rather than two-car garages; I've had reasons to go in and out of Korea since, mostly to Seoul (When I still had friends there), overnights in Incheon when in coming from China or Honolulu, and a good many times in Pusan as the transit point when I taught in China.

I love kimchee (China's la ba chai) and beef bulgoggi, so at least, I've taken Korea to my tummy. Kimchee-breath might not be a compliment outside of Korea, but Hanguk considers it so within its borders. Not actually unpleasant with the ladies, but that's another story.

We are writing specifically of Guryo town in CK. Because of the perceived image of wealth in the place, particularly elderly Chinese, Japanese, and Koreans who invested their funds to run a health shop, a store, or a massage parlor on island, residents had been susceptible to the vandalism and thievery of the young.

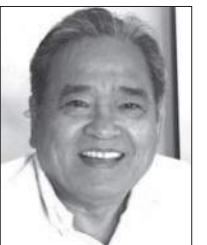
The place is not, however, just for the elderly. A Korean gentleman who has spent 30 years on Saipan has children born on island, one at West Point across the Hudson from NYC, and the other, at the Naval Academy in Maryland. Maybe he has a third one being groomed to head for Colorado Springs! The father is a widower and his Annapolis lad was visiting, so I got to meet my neighbor two doors north, and his thoroughly westernized son.

I've heard Filipino spoken in the hallway and in rooms by both genders several times, and it appears that they are the maintenance and cleaning crew. A resident once stopped me and asked

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



if I could help her deal with her bathroom. I told her it was not my specialty and left it at that.

I occupy a room that was in the process of being fully restored to its original condition after being abused by the children of the previous tenant, and I took the place even if the damaged storm shutters were yet to be restored or replaced, but the workman who came to look at my electric, water, and floor tile requirements spoke a language I knew.

I sent an email to management on certain matters about the unit and maintenance was issued a copy. A *kabayan* came to deal with my floor tile, electric, and water requirements. Upon reading my note, he assumed I was an American since my sentences were full and my narrative provided details. He was pleased to learn we might speak the same language. We chatted away more than I left him alone to do his work, but it was good let the "r's" roll down the twirl of the tongue. *Maraming salamat, po!*

Konnichiwa and Ni hao are heard not too frequently in the hallway, but the Yo bo sa yo is spoken often. I was back in school in Texas where Koreans were peppy while their Japanese cousins stayed in the Library to pore over books with a dictionary on the side and a writing pad on the other. Nippon was no fun during the football season when the men's dorm invited girlfriends to be pom-pom girls at halftime.

The Chinese were nowhere to be found as Nixon had yet to shake Mao's hands; guys from Taiwan demonized Beijing with messianic undertones not too unpopular among the evangelical Texans.

The guard at Guryo town ground floor has signs in Korean and a brief follow-up in Chinese and Japanese. No Arabic script since the occasional Middle East recruiter of Bangladeshi workers stayed at the hotels. Besides, Sinosphere residents tend to be pork-eaters, anathema to our Moslem friends and their relations.

We reported earlier that a local cop, viewing the video of a recent robbery in the place, was aghast at the sight of the thief counting his loot. "He just got out of juvenile detention," he exclaimed. Not yet sixteen, the kid is back to penal confinement.

The thieves just cost us two elderly residents. Guryo town. We keep the front door locked.

Village rage is real!

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



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With the economy sputtering and sliding steadily south, the frustrated discontentment in the villages aren't calculated rages but a realistic daily people experience. What are spouted in the news media versus real life experiences are oceans apart.

As the hardship intensifies, I quiz what have incumbents done to put this issue into perspective backed by measures to begin the long road to economic recovery. None!

What we assumed as negligence has given birth to two problems at the higher level: 1). An elite group that instantly ignored people it represents. 2). The obvious lack of the requisite qualifications for policymaking piled by the lack of a decent vetting process.

The elite group waltzes and dines with rich donors while the people it represents—a marginalized subculture unto itself—are left alone in the storm to fend for themselves.

This is where disconnection is severed. But incumbents would brave returning to ask for our votes in order to live luxuriously in their superficial culture. Nowhere do we find “we the people” in this equation.

Also heard tons of whispers how filthy rich corporations are out to fund the campaign cost of favorite lapdogs to protect their interests. I have sufficient materials to write a book where the suspicious tentacles lead to shield lapdogs. Interesting!

About the only reason for civility still in place is the sense of respect coming from the subgroup struggling to make heads and tails of its forced condition in abject poverty. Like volcanic eruption, this too would explode in the near term. It would be quite an ugly eruption of No Mas!

Take stock: Other than boasting as part time employees of Parks and Recreation show us what have you done up this alley. It's vital to know how your measure would help the 51 percent of workers who are under federal poverty income level. Must show benefits using solid numbers!

I'm a conservative and the RNC was a horror

As Heidi Cruz left Cleveland's Quicken Loans arena after her husband, Ted, gave his stemwinder at the Republican National Convention, she was escorted by security through a hostile crowd. Apparently, people in the audience were annoyed that Cruz hadn't endorsed Donald “I Call Him Lyin’ Ted” Trump. They couldn't believe that the Texan actually gave his national audience permission to vote their conscience. They were in shock he didn't bring gold, frankincense and myrrh with him to the podium as a gift.

In other words, blood was coming out of their eyes, and wherever.

Most of us who have watched Trump and his earliest faithful act like goons in public were not surprised at the reaction. I've made no secret I was prepared to vote for Trump if the alternative was Hillary Clinton and a radical Supreme Court that will change the course of this nation and its principles for generations. It's not just about abortion and bathrooms, folks. I've said it, I've meant it, I own it.

But in return for my precious vote, I expected humility, gratitude, empathy — things that apparently don't exist in Trump-land. Instead of understanding that voting for Trump is a compromise of Herculean proportions, those blinded by the Orange Aura are incapable of graciousness. They are triumphalists, who demand absolute obedience. Their role model and high priest is named Chris Christie.

The show that Christie put on in the convention was embarrassing. To see him prance around the stage like a trained monkey was demoralizing to me, who so admired the former federal prosecutor.

His prosecution of Clinton, who actually should be in jail, was simply theater to please his political master. Christie and Trump might be friends of long standing, but with friends like these, Chris doesn't need enemies. And yet, we were supposed to be thrilled with this shrill takedown of the Democratic nominee. I listened, and, while I'm definitely no criminal law expert, I thought the only thing Christie could indict with his tirade is that proverbial ham sandwich.

The gradual expiry of CW workers' contracts and their eventual repatriation shows the NMI negligent of its end of responsibility. It failed rigorous training and educating of its workforce to fill positions in both sectors. Show voters measures you've taken, in concert with the public school system and NMC, to fulfill NMI obligation to upgrade the skills of our local workforce. Or was this issue sleepwalked time and again? Snoozing, huh?

Medicaid is likely to suffer a heavy blow, specifically the Affordable Care Act under Obamacare. There's every indication national republicans would repeal it sometime next year. Recently, the Obama administration has been funding a certain portion of the program without U.S. Congressional appropriations. This is illegal per an adjudicated federal court decision!

Have you delved into this issue with the view to providing the requisite funds to cushion it in the event funds are cut out completely? How much would this require and do we have the money for it? Or did pass above your heads?

The number of patients sent to off-island medical centers costs millions of dollars annually. How much is this figure and isn't it time that alternatives are found including the hiring of medical specialists who could work out of CHC? What else do we need to do collectively as a community to mitigate debilitating long-term illnesses like diabetes, kidney failure and subsequent dialysis, heart issues and cancer associated with use of betel nut?

Recalibrate: Have you taken the time to critically review investments in the various sectors and whether in fact it has helped the alienated indigenous people? Who decides form and rate of investments and shouldn't such disposition come from the indigenous people? Where do we factor in planned military build-up and tourism? Are the indigenous people just cogs or superficial cushion in the decision-making process?

It's obvious the lack of leadership from this administration clueless of the consequence of its lazy carelessness in the disposition of issues of substance. It's a tale of the lack of experience from a team that never received the mandate of “we the people.” I liken the rumblings downstairs as an impending earthquake ready to erupt anytime now. The eruption could get very ugly!

The village rage is real and increasing in decibels by the day. Let's see what the toxic performance by republicans would do to admit its woefully warped sense of leadership.

Hostile Venues: Occasionally, I'd crash into coffee shops or venues frequented by the simple folks at home to listen to their sentiments on issues.

Admittedly, these would be hostile places for incumbents. Nah! I heard unrehearsed raw spouts that instantly nail anyone seeking re-election. I suppose folks, unassuming they may be, have picked-up quickly on the vicious toxic performance of re-

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Philadelphia Daily News

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But the convention folk loved it, just as I'm sure the Democrats will be thrilled with all of the smarmy, supercilious claptrap Hillary's hellions will dish out. I've already stocked up on wine to dull the pain of seeing liberals everywhere — the subway, at the dry cleaner, feeding the homeless, etc. As I told a friend, if Philadelphia were pre-revolution Russia, I'd be a supporter of the czar, keeping one step ahead of the Bolsheviks (Bernie Sanders is coming, right?)

By this point, you might think I've already started in on the grape, with this seemingly random babbling, but there is method to this madness, my friends. My point is this:

I expect hostility, snark and threats from liberals. They have never shown, at least in my experience, respect for opposing ideas. They attack conservatives, particularly female conservatives, with a vengeance, and they aren't even very articulate when they do it. If you did a statistical survey of grammatical mistakes in the comments section from Philly.com, you'd note that most errors are committed by leftists. That is probably because they read the Scholastic paperback version of Karl Marx instead of paying attention while Sister Mary Katherine diagrammed sentences on the chalkboard.

I do not expect that same level of hostility from conservatives toward other conservatives. Yes, intrafamily squabbles are to be expected, and we even saw some major insurrection when Barry Goldwater threw his hat into the ring 50 years ago. There have

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publicans riddled with failure and are saying, “No Mas!” And they are talking straight from their empty family pocketbooks!

It's a dangerously slippery slope and only those who prepare for the arduous journey would survive the long climb to imperial Capital Hill. It takes resolute leadership to capitalize on the obvious incompetency and inadequacies of the GOP. It's an easy game book plan to rip and dump in trash bins anywhere.

Legacy: When we walk through familiar landscape, like snails moving through the garden, we leave behind a trail. It's called legacy.

It's lasting contribution you leave behind for others to follow in your sphere of influence. If you're a teacher all your life, what is it in your career fellow instructors would find of special value they could use in their own daily work in the classroom?

I ask the same of doctors, nurses, school administrators, carpenters, plumbers, auto-mechanics, cabinet members, legislators, musicians, and trash collector. We all have our individual contributions no matter your station in life. What's yours?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

My brother in Christ

In 2006, I attended the celebration of the episcopal consecration and installation of the bishop of the Diocese of Reno, in northern Nevada. Although the diocese (134,000 Roman Catholics as of 2010) was racially and ethnically diverse, the largest of which being European whites and Latin American Hispanics, the announcement of then-father Randolph Roque Calvo of the archdiocese of San Francisco as their new bishop was warmly received and with joyous exuberance, the parishioners and Catholics throughout northern Nevada immediately began to prepare for the ceremonies to follow.

You see (and I'm very proud to address him with the honorific), His Excellency was born on Guam—a Guamanian of Chamorro descent. To many still in the states, he could be an alien. “Guamanian? What's that?” because to whites, he's not white; to Latinos, he's not of their flavor, although brown-skinned. It did not matter. We were all Catholics, after all—by definition, ecumenical, universal, all-embracing.

In the weeks prior to the consecration, I had the pleasure of mingling with parishioners over coffee after mass and joined in conversations with Reno locals about their soon-to-be bishop. Their respect, heartwarming approval, and loving acceptance were easily seen and felt.

Randolph Roque Calvo is my brother in Christ, a sentiment clearly shared amongst the attendees throughout the day of his consecration and installation. He was not seen as “other,” a “foreigner,” or an “outsider.” With great community pride, he was honored by an overflow of well-wishers.

I was not only proud of the ascension of a son of the Marianas but I was also made prouder to be a member of the Catholic faith. How I loved that community. I was reminded of a verse in the Old Testament, Leviticus

“The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself; for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.”

I ask that we ponder on that for a moment and if you could indulge me, meditate on it. May the Holy Spirit warm our hearts, give us light for clarity, and instruct us on how to call upon our better selves so that we in turn can serve as a beacon of light—a shining example—to our children and heirs as well as to our community, that we are worthy to be called Catholics because we are unconditionally all-embracing. Be kind, be gracious—in the spirit of our lord, Jesus Christ, and our Holy Father Pope Francis.

Jean D. Sablan

Via email

Racism

Racism is a part of our society; it is an ongoing judgment in which we cannot fully control. I believe its roots are hatred and superiority. The act of racism may be irksome but may seem right to others. We cannot forcibly convince people and even society that racism is outright wrong. In order to want to deter racism, we must be the first to act right- to appreciate differences and to not believe in its concept and instead, believe in change. No matter the complexion, background, and even standard of living, we must accept differences among all races. After all, we are all human beings. Hopefully, our optimism and belief in humanity will somehow be the reason to this generation's gradual change.

Pionnah Gregorio

Oleai

MARPAC holds *Ice Age: Collision Course* premiere

A total of 18 winners won four free movie tickets apiece to the premiere of *Ice Age: Collision Course* last Thursday at the Regal Cinemas Saipan Megaplex 7.

It was Aloha Maid and Royal Mill's third and last movie premiere promotion. The 18 winners qualified to the MARPAC promotion after purchasing packs of Aloha Maid and Royal Mill.

Among the winners is Duwayne Sakisat. He said that he only found out that he won when MARPAC gave him a call unexpectedly. "I felt excited when I found out I won, it just brightened up my day," he said. He also mentioned that he felt special when he found out that he is one of the first few to see the movie.

Angelie Galvez, daughter of winner Vetino Galvez, said that she found out about the promo from her father after she came home from practice. "I was just surprised, I mean a free movie premiere," she said. Galvez added that she was surprised because the movie is like a blast from her past childhood life and it was also one of her favorite movies.

Another winner is Phyllisina Reyes, who said that she found out about the promo when they were grocery shopping for a beach barbecue so they bought a pack of Aloha Maid. "I was pretty

MACKENZIE PEREZ

Angelie Galves, second left, chose to bring her friends to watch the latest installment of the *Ice Age* franchise last Thursday night at the Regal Cinemas Saipan. Galvez won tickets in the Aloha Maid and Royal Mill movie promo.

excited; I told Michelle (Villacrusis, MARPAC representative) that it was very unexpected," she said.

"Exciting, I don't watch that much television so this is awesome and I think the kids will really enjoy it," she added.

Ice Age: Collision Course is the fourth movie from the film series *Ice Age* that was released 14 years ago. The movie is about characters trying to save themselves and the rest of the herd from a series of cosmic events that transforms and threatens their world. The movie stars the voices of John Leguizamo, Ray Romano, Denis Leary, Queen Latifah, Seann William Scott, Josh Peck, Keke Palmer, Jennifer Lopez, and Simon Pegg.

Ice Age: Collision Course is now showing at Regal Cinemas.

Villacrusis said that they will have more promos to offer and wanted everyone in the island to stay tuned. Aside from the free tickets to the movie premiere, the 18 winners also won \$30 worth of gift cards (*Mackenzie Perez*)



UOG hosts regional education campus network design workshop

The University of Guam Office of Information Technology is hosting a regional Campus Network Design Workshop conducted by the Network Startup Resource Center (NSRC). The hands-on, technical workshop will be from July 25 to 29 on the UOG campus.

The workshop will address how to design campus networks to meet the growing global research and connectivity needs of education institutions.

"The training is being conducted by some of the top professionals in information technology," said Rommel Hidalgo, UOG Chief Information Officer. "With UOG cur-

rently improving its network infrastructure to become an IT leader in education for our region, the workshop is a great opportunity to collaborate and work with regional education institutions on network design and IT operations."

Representatives from educational institutions on-island and in the region will be participating including UOG, Guam Community College, Guam Department of Education, College of Micronesia, College of the Marshall Islands, Northern Marianas College, Palau Community College, and Palau Ministry of Education.

NSRC receives funding from the National Science

Foundation, Google, and other organizations. NSRC's goal is "to make it easier for local scientists, engineers and educators to collaborate via the Internet with their international colleagues by helping to connect communities of interest."

NSRC works directly with the indigenous network engineers and operators who develop and maintain the Internet infrastructure in their respective countries and regions by providing technical information, engineering assistance, training, donations of networking books, equipment and other resources. The end goal in this work is to make it easier for lo-

cal scientists, engineers and educators to collaborate via the Internet with their international colleagues by helping to connect communities of interest. By strategically working with universities, research institutes, Internet Service Providers, Regional Internet Registries, government agencies, supranational agencies, industry, private foundations and non-governmental organizations, the NSRC helps develop national and regional Internet infrastructure for collaborative research, education, and international partnerships.

For more information about NSRC, visit www.nsrc.org. (*PR*)

Coast Guard rescues 8 from burning ship offshore Oahu

HONOLULU—The Coast Guard rescued eight crewmembers from a burning ship two miles offshore Oahu, Thursday.

Eight people are safe after a rescue and assist team from USCGC Galveston Island (WPB-1349) fought and extinguished an engine room fire aboard commercial fishing vessel Lady Anna two miles south of Honolulu Harbor.

"We were in the right place at the right time," said Lt. Ryan Ball, commanding officer of USCGC Galveston Island. "This was a combined effort between the Galveston Island crew, the watchstanders at Sector Honolulu and

rescue boat crews from Station Honolulu and Honolulu Fire Department. I'm happy that we were able to help and I'm proud of my crew for their quick and effective response in putting out the fire. The reason why we do training is to ensure that in an emergency situation such as this, we can perform safely and effectively."

Watchstanders at Sector Honolulu Command Center overheard a transmission on VHF channel 16 at 4:30 p.m. regarding a fire aboard the 78-foot fishing vessel Lady Anna. Watchstanders established communication with the vessel, directed the launch of a 45-foot Response Boat-

Medium crew from Station Honolulu and diverted the nearby Galveston Island crew to assist.

Once on scene, the Galveston Island crew reported black smoke billowing from the engine room. The RB-M crew arrived on scene and safely disembarked the crew from the fishing vessel. The Galveston Island Rescue and Assist Team then boarded the Lady Anna to investigate the smoke. When approaching the engine room, the team identified flames coming from the generator and utilized a P-6 pump to successfully extinguish the fire.

International crewmembers from the Lady Anna

were safely transferred by the RB-M crew to the commercial fishing vessel Sapphire III due to lack of clearance and two U.S. crewmembers were safely transferred to Pier 38. No injuries were reported.

The Lady Anna was towed in to Pier 17 by a water taxi after a marine surveyor deemed the vessel seaworthy and not in danger of taking on water or having a fire re-flash.

Coast Guard Sector Honolulu personnel will investigate the cause of the fire in the coming days and address any repairs necessary for the Lady Anna to resume normal operations. Lady Anna is homeported in Honolulu. (*PR*)

HORROR

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always been disagreements among national-security hawks, social conservatives and free-market acolytes. Still, there was a sense of reciprocal respect, and that is why I finally changed my registration to Republican, after years of remaining in a party that ridiculed my beliefs.

Imagine, then, my horror to see Republicans doing almost exactly the same thing to people who didn't share their adoration of the party's nominee. Instead of understanding that decent men such as Paul Ryan were forced to make major deals with the devil to continue supporting the candidate and thereby save the country from Clinton, they demanded absolute loyalty, acting like red-white-and-blue clad Putins willing to exile dissenters to political Siberia.

On Facebook alone, it is virtually impossible to have a civil conversation with Trump supporters, because they will brook no opposition. Voting for him is not

enough. We have to act as if Ivanka just delivered a virgin birth and Melania invented the English language.

And we must hiss and scream at a man who was ridiculed by the party's nominee, whose father was slandered, who reacted when attacked and whose wife was subjected to the misogyny of social media by the nominee himself.

I'm no fan of Cruz's politics. As an immigration lawyer, how could I be? Still, I admire the fact that he stood up in Cleveland and told the crowds they were not beholden to a man or a movement or a motto. He told them — us, in fact — that conservatism had noble principles worth pursuing and preserving, and that we needed to vote our conscience.

Perhaps that leads in Trump's direction. Perhaps not. But making a conservative woman fear for her safety as she travels through conservative crowds is abhorrent. It would be just as abhorrent if that woman were traveling through Philadelphia and threatened by liberal goons.

I can't wait until Nov. 9.

Business

Solar projects can't save the forest for the trees?

WADING RIVER, N.Y. (AP)—A green energy project has some environmentalists seeing red.

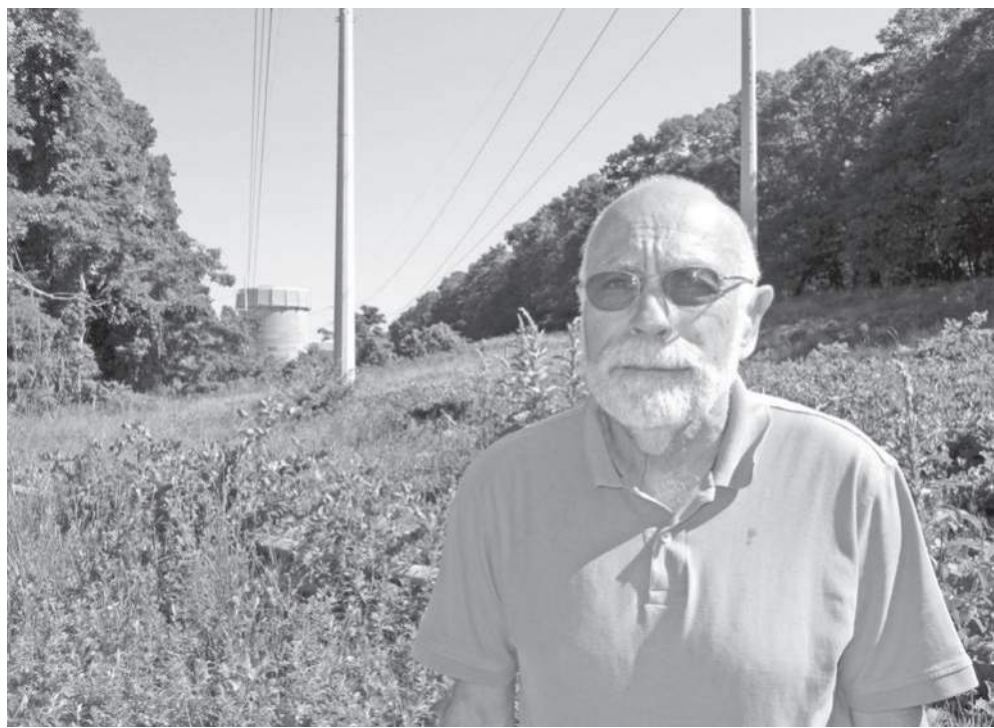
Solar energy ordinarily wins praise from groups that want to cut greenhouse gases, but a proposed solar project at a defunct Long Island nuclear power plant has stirred outrage because it requires demolishing 350 acres of woodlands.

"Choosing solar over forests anywhere in the world is just plain stupid," said Dick Amper, of the Long Island Pine Barrens Society. "Solar is very important to fight global warming and beyond, but I'm afraid we're making false choices when you destroy portions of nature and the environment to accomplish that end."

Similar projects are happening elsewhere.

A court fight is brewing over a plan by New Jersey's Six Flags Great Adventure amusement park to cut down nearly 15,000 trees to make way for a solar farm. In Connecticut, state officials recently approved a plan to raze 134 acres of trees in the town of Sprague, near Norwich, for a solar energy project.

Alex Hobson, a spokes-



^{AP}
In this July 12, 2016 photo, Sid Bail, president of the Wading River Civic Association, poses outside the defunct Shoreham Nuclear Power Plant in Wading River, N.Y.

"I would think Long Island would have giant rooftops and parking lots in shopping malls that could be used for large solar projects if that's what's needed," Thomas said. "There's so much acreage available for that stuff."

Sid Bail, president of the Wading River Civic Association, who lives about a half mile from the Shoreham site along the Long Island Sound, isn't buying it. "I favor renewable energy, but in this case it's a very bad trade-off," he said.

The proposal submitted last month still requires extensive regulatory review.

"We are prepared to work closely with all public officials

and the local community to come up with the best solution to have renewable solar energy at Shoreham, and preserve as much of the property as possible," Ross Groffman, executive director of NextEra Energy Resources and LI Solar Generation said in a statement.

Neal Lewis, executive director of the Sustainability Institute at Molloy College, an environmental advocacy group on Long Island that supports the Shoreham project, said it is always preferable to build solar projects in open spaces that don't require the elimination of large numbers of trees. But he notes that "of all the potential options, there is nothing less impactful on the environment than putting in a solar farm."

"That's the real world we live in and they have a right to develop it."

woman for a Solar Energy industry group in Washington, D.C., declined to comment on the Long Island proposal, but said the industry "is committed to responsible use of the land on which we operate and we go to great lengths to protect biodiversity and ecologically fragile lands."

Under the proposal, a company called LI Solar Generation, LLC, a joint venture between NextEra

Energy Resources and National Grid, would construct the facility on the grounds of the defunct Shoreham nuclear power plant.

The plant was completed in 1984 for \$6 billion but never opened because of community opposition over potential safety concerns. The solar project backers are hoping to plug into existing electric energy infrastructure on the Shoreham property, with plans for up to

72 megawatts of solar energy, providing power for more than 13,000 homes.

A part of the plan mentions replanting trees elsewhere to offset the cutting of the forest but a spokesman for the company did not have details.

Walter Thomas, who teaches a course on solar energy at the University of Massachusetts-Lowell, questioned why it was necessary to eliminate any trees at all.

Volkswagen has emissions-cheating fix ready

DETROIT (AP)—Volkswagen's plan to fix most of its 2-liter diesel engines that cheat on emissions tests includes a computer software update and a larger catalytic converter to trap harmful nitrogen oxide, and it may not hurt mileage or performance, according to dealers who were briefed by executives on the matter.

Limited details of the plan were made public last week at a regional dealer meeting in Newark, New Jersey, by Volkswagen of America Chief Operating Officer Mark McNabb, said two dealers who asked not to be identified because the plan hasn't been made public.

One dealer said the group was told that early testing of a small sample of repaired cars

showed that the fix made "no discernable difference" in the cars' mileage, horsepower or torque. Both dealers said they were told that more testing was needed and that the plans still had to be approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the California Air Resources Board.

If the fixes don't hurt performance and mileage, that could be a big boost for Volkswagen, which last month agreed to spend up to \$15.3 billion to settle consumer lawsuits and government allegations that its diesels cheated on U.S. emissions tests. The settlement included up to \$10 billion that would go to over 475,000 owners of 2-liter VW or Audi diesels, giving them the choice of selling

the cars back at the pre-scandal value or getting them fixed. A fix that is satisfactory to owners would entice more of them to go for repairs, saving VW money. The \$10 billion figure is the worst-case scenario for the company and includes all owners taking the buybacks. Car owners also would get payments of \$5,100 to \$10,000.

Volkswagen has acknowledged that the cars were programmed to turn on emissions controls during government lab tests and turn them off while on the road. Investigators determined that the cars emitted more than 40 times the legal limit of nitrogen oxide, which can cause respiratory problems in humans. The company got away with the

scheme for seven years until independent researchers reported it to the EPA.

Even with the fixes, the VWs won't fully comply with clean air laws because the cars were built to defeat the tests. The fixes must cut emissions by at least 80 percent, and VW must pay to mitigate any excess pollution.

At the time the settlement was announced, no fix was available, but the dealers said that VW appeared close to submitting one.

Neither the EPA nor Volkswagen would comment on details repair proposals. "Any remedies that are being discussed still need to be approved," VW spokeswoman Jeannine Ginivan said.

Southwest Airlines still dealing with delays after outage

DALLAS (AP)—Southwest passengers endured a third straight day of canceled and delayed flights as the airline struggled to resume normal operations on Friday.

Tracking service FlightStats Inc. reported that by mid-afternoon about 300 Southwest flights had been canceled and 1,200 more delayed. Southwest canceled nearly 1,500 flights and 4,500 others were delayed

Wednesday and Thursday.

Southwest Airlines Co. said it was managing through lingering disruptions. It said most of Friday's cancellations were due to airline crews being unable to get to their flights after being stranded in other cities.

The airline said that a computer router failure caused several technology systems to break down on Wednesday, and backup systems didn't

work as expected. It said those systems were fully restored.

The timing of the breakdown—in the middle of the summer travel season—made rebooking stranded customers more difficult because planes were already nearly full.

Southwest recommended that passengers delay travel until after the weekend. It said that customers with tickets for travel from Wednesday

through next Tuesday would get two weeks to rebook without paying a higher fare.

It also offered passengers half off their next flight on Southwest Airlines.

In an email to customers, President and CEO Gary Kelly called the failure "unacceptable" and said that the 50 percent discount is valid for any domestic travel when booked by Oct. 31 for travel through Jan. 31.

Kaine liberal appeal muted by energy ties, abortion concerns

WASHINGTON (AP)—Hillary Clinton and running mate Tim Kaine are closely aligned on many issues, but Kaine's cautious, left-leaning political profile in a closely contested state is blurred by his ties to energy industry interests and his personal qualms over abortion.

The Virginia senator is regarded as a careful, earnest politician who has navigated the rough-and-tumble of his state's hard-fought electoral landscape with few ethical missteps. Minor controversies have flared over paid travel and gifts he received during his stints as governor and senator.

A Harvard-trained lawyer who prospered as Richmond's mayor before moving on to higher office, Kaine endorsed Clinton early in her presidential run, in contrast to 2008 when he backed Barack Obama over Clinton early on.

In sync on a number of issues, Kaine and Clinton back a no-fly zone over Syria despite the Obama administration's reluctance.

Kaine, who was governor when a gunman with a history of mental illness fatally shot 32 people at Virginia Tech before killing himself, shares Clinton's support for gun control. He supports restricting the sale of magazines carrying more than 10 bullets; Clinton wants to ban military-style guns she calls

"weapons of war."

Both share concerns on education, health care and a tax overhaul.

Clinton came out against offshore oil drilling while campaigning in 2015 and expressed approval this year when President Barack Obama blocked all exploration off the Eastern Seaboard in the Atlantic Ocean. Kaine consistently has sponsored legislation that would have opened Virginia's coast to drilling.

As governor, Kaine said in 2008: "We're not going to drill our way out of the long-term energy crisis facing this nation." But in 2013, he and Sen. Mark Warner, D-Va., sponsored legislation that would have set a five-year leasing plan allowing oil drilling off Virginia's coast and providing at least 35 percent of revenues to the state. In 2015, Kaine again joined Warner and a group of East Coast senators pushing an offshore drilling plan.

Oil and gas interests rank with law firms and investment and technology companies among Kaine's strong campaign financiers.

Oil and gas companies donated nearly \$60,000 to Kaine for his 2011 campaign, including \$35,000 from Dominion Resources Inc., the Richmond-based utility that supplies electricity and natural gas to Virginia and other neighboring and eastern states.

Business

Clinton says veep pick Kaine is everything GOP ticket isn't

MIAMI (AP)—Hillary Clinton debuted running mate Sen. Tim Kaine on Saturday as a can-do progressive committed to social justice and equality—“everything Donald Trump and Mike Pence are not”—at a boisterous rally ahead of next week’s Democratic National Convention.

“He is qualified to step into this job and lead from Day One. And he is a progressive who likes to get things done,” Clinton declared at Florida International University.

Kaine, a bilingual former Virginia governor, detailed his life in public service. “I like to fight for right,” he said.

And, as Clinton smiled broadly at her choice for vice president, Kaine greeted the largely Hispanic audience in Spanish. “We’re going to be ‘compañeros de alma,’ in this great ‘lucha’ ahead,” he said, or “soul mates in this great fight ahead.”

Trump, in a text to his

own supporters, said President Barack Obama, Clinton and Kaine were “the ultimate insiders” and implored voters to not “let Obama have a 3rd term.”

At the splashy rally, Democrats sought to offer a contrast with Trump and Pence, whose first appearance together in a New York City hotel ballroom included a lengthy speech by the GOP businessman and much more limited remarks from Pence, the Indiana governor. The two only briefly posed for photos at their campaign kickoff.

Clinton chose to introduce Kaine as her running mate in the battleground state of Florida, waving to the large crowd of cheering supporters as they bounded on stage with their hands raised in the traditional sign of unity. Clinton sought to present the partnership as one built in optimism, panning the Republican convention, which ended two days earlier, as a



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton stands together with Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va., during a rally at Florida International University Panther Arena in Miami, Saturday, July 23, 2016. Clinton has chosen Kaine to be her running mate.

display of “fear,” “anger and resentment.”

She noted that Kaine had taken a year off from Harvard Law School to do missionary

work in Honduras and had worked as a civil rights attorney specializing in equal housing. Clinton said Kaine as governor worked with Re-

publicans and helped his home state navigate the Great Recession without sacrificing funding for education.

She also pointed to his

work on gun control after the deadly Virginia Tech shooting in 2007, praising his efforts to curb gun violence before a nation still reeling from a series of shootings and violence against police.

“Behind that smile Tim also has a backbone of steel. Just ask the NRA,” Clinton said.

Choking up, Kaine described the Virginia Tech shooting as the “worst day ... of my life.”

Kaine, 58, was long viewed as a likely choice because of his resume in government and his time as chairman of the Democratic National Committee. He also had a particularly powerful backer in Obama, whom Kaine endorsed in 2007. Obama considered him for vice president a year later.

Kaine showed a willingness to mix it up with the Republican ticket, assailing Trump as someone who had left “a trail of broken promises and wrecked lives wherever he goes.”

AP Poll: Support grows among Americans for stricter gun laws

By **LISA MARIE PANE** and **RYAN J. FOLEY**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Americans increasingly favor tougher gun laws by margins that have grown wider after a steady drumbeat of shootings in recent months, but they also are pessimistic that change will happen anytime soon, according to a new Associated Press-GfK poll.

Nearly two-thirds of respondents expressed support for stricter laws, with majorities favoring nationwide bans on the sale of semi-automatic assault weapons such as the AR-15 and on the sale of high-capacity magazines holding 10 or more bullets.

The percentage of Americans who want such laws is the highest since the AP-GfK poll started asking the question in 2013, a survey taken about 10 months after the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in Newtown, Connecticut, that killed 20 children and six educators.

High-profile shootings also appear to have taken a toll on Americans’ sense of safety. Strong majorities of those polled expressed some degree of concern that they or a relative will be a victim of gun violence or a mass shooting.

“If you live in the United States in these days right now, you have to be concerned,”

said Milonne Ambrose, a 63-year-old administrative assistant from Decatur, Georgia. “You could be on the street somewhere. You could be at a shopping mall thinking there will be a mass shooting and you will be in the middle of it. You can’t not think about it.”

Ambrose, a native of Haiti who moved to the U.S. nearly 50 years ago, said she is now much more alert and on guard whenever she is in public.

“I’m looking for exits. This isn’t something I did before,” she said. “What if I have to run? Where’s the exit? Where would I go?”

The level of concern about being victimized is not uniform, however. Nonwhites are significantly more likely to be very or extremely concerned.

Alonzo Lassiter, 66, of suburban St. Louis worries that his autistic 17-year-old son could be the victim of gun violence, either by a robber or the police.

“If somebody told him to get on the ground and put his hands up—or told him to give up his headphones—he wouldn’t readily identify those instructions,” said Lassiter, who is black. “He may be an easy target.”

He said straw purchasers who buy and then resell guns to ineligible felons and teenagers have flooded some urban neighborhoods with firearms and need to be stopped.

Energized white supremacists cheer Trump convention message

CLEVELAND (AP)—They don’t like to be called white supremacists.

The well-dressed men who gathered in Cleveland’s Ritz-Carlton bar after Donald Trump’s speech accepting the Republican nomination for president prefer the term “Europeanists,” “alt-right,” or even “white nationalists.” They are also die-hard Trump supporters.

And far from hiding in chat rooms or under white sheets, they cheered the GOP presidential nominee from inside the Republican National Convention over the last week. While not official delegates, they nevertheless obtained credentials to attend the party’s highest-profile quadrennial gathering.

Several gathered in the luxury hotel well after midnight following Trump’s

Thursday address, a fiery appeal they said helped push the Republican Party closer to their principles.

“I don’t think people have fully recognized the degree to which he’s transformed the party,” said Richard Spencer, a clean-cut 38-year-old from Arlington, Virginia, who sipped Manhattans as he matter-of-factly called for removing African-Americans, Hispanics and Jews from the United States.

Like most in his group, Spencer said this year’s convention was his first. On his social media accounts, he posted pictures of himself wearing a red Trump “Make America Great Again” hat at Quicken Loans Arena. And he says he hopes to attend future GOP conventions.

“Tons of people in the alt-right are here,” he said,

putting their numbers at the RNC this week in the dozens. “We feel an investment in the Trump campaign.”

He and his group chatted up convention goers late into the night, including an executive from a major Jewish organization and a female board member of the Republican Jewish Coalition. They sat at the marble bar as Spencer explained his position on blacks, Hispanics and Jews. They challenged him repeatedly and expressed shock at how calmly he dismissed their rejection of his ideals.

“We’ll help them go somewhere else. I’m not a maniac,” Spencer said of the minorities he wants to eject from the country. “I know in order to achieve what I want to achieve, you have to deal with people rationally.”

The New York billionaire

has publicly disavowed the white supremacist movement when pressed by journalists.

Asked to respond to the white supremacists’ presence at the convention, campaign spokesman Jason Miller said, “Donald Trump has a lifetime record of inclusion and has publicly rebuked groups who seek to discriminate against others on numerous occasions. To suggest otherwise is a complete fabrication of the truth.”

Sean Spicer, chief strategist for the Republican National Committee, said convention organizers release credentials in large blocks to state delegations, special guests and media outlets. Officials have little control over where they end up, he said, noting that even protesters from the liberal group Code Pink managed to get into the convention hall.

Internal reviews underway for officers in police death case

BALTIMORE (AP)—Two outside police departments are conducting investigations into the conduct of three Baltimore officers who have been cleared of criminal charges in the death of Freddie Gray.

Montgomery County police, with the help of Howard County officers, have launched reviews to determine whether Lt. Brian Rice and Officers Caesar Goodson Jr. and Edward Nero broke department policy during Gray’s

April 2015 arrest, the Baltimore Sun reported (<http://bsun.md/2aos66E>).

Gray died a week after his neck was broken while he was handcuffed and shackled but left unrestrained in the back of a police van.

So far, trials for four of the six officers charged in his death have led to three acquittals and a mistrial. Internal investigations into the conduct of the other officers will begin after their trials conclude.

Baltimore Police Commissioner Kevin Davis said the departments will determine whether the officers broke department rules, and he will decide whether to fire or otherwise discipline them. He said he asked the outside agencies to conduct the reviews because of the public concern over the high-profile case.

“I know how important it is to the community to have faith and trust in the internal disciplinary system of the police depart-

ment,” Davis said. “To have a relationship built on trust in the community stems largely—not exclusively, but largely—on the timeliness and thoroughness of our internal investigations.”

Captain Paul Starks, a Montgomery County Police spokesman, couldn’t say how long the reviews will take.

“We will conduct a thorough and fair investigation by looking at all of the evidence and interviewing anyone with information,” Starks said.

Asia

No ASEAN consensus on South China Sea row—for now

VIENTIANE, Laos (AP)—Southeast Asia's main grouping failed to reach a consensus on how to deal with China's territorial expansion in the South China Sea, intensifying a diplomatic stalemate that officials said they hope to resolve in further closed-door parleys on Sunday.

The foreign ministers of the 10 countries that make up the Association of Southeast Asian Nations deliberated for about three hours, continuing the unfruitful discussions their senior officials had on Saturday, but with no result.

"They haven't completed their discussion," said Thai Foreign Ministry spokesman Sek Wannamethee. "They are now having a working luncheon followed by an ASEAN retreat, so the issue will be discussed during the retreat."

Like all other ASEAN meetings, the foreign ministers' conclave also traditionally ends with a joint statement. But the sticking point is whether to include a reference to the South China Sea. ASEAN's cardinal principle is decisions by consensus, which means any country can veto a proposal. This time, it is Cambodia, China's close ally. In 2012, Cambodia also blocked a reference to the dispute, which ended with the ministers failing to issue a statement for the first time in the bloc's history.

Sek said the "joint communique is still being drafted."

In welcoming remarks earlier, Laotian Foreign Minister Saleumxay Kommasith made no mention of the dispute.



Laotian Foreign Minister Saleumxay Kommasith, left, talks to his counterpart Perfecto Yasay Jr. of the Philippines, center, and Brunei's Trade Minister Jock Seng Pehin Lim after the opening ceremony of the 49th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Vientiane, Laos, Sunday, July 24, 2016.

"Despite conflicts and challenges that have occurred in different parts of the world in general, peace, stability and development cooperation among nations remain the prevailing trend in this era," Kommasith said.

The Sunday talks are expected to deal with terrorism, economy, climate change, security, the impact of Brexit and other issues. But all this has been overshadowed by the July 12 decision by The Hague-based tribunal in a dispute between China and the Philippines.

The Permanent Court of Arbitration found that China had no basis for its expansive

claims to territorial waters around the Philippines. China has similar claims against other ASEAN nations, including Vietnam and Malaysia, and the ruling should have emboldened ASEAN to challenge Beijing more forcibly.

That's being prevented by Cambodia, said diplomats speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter with the media. They said the draft statement to be issued by the ministers on Tuesday left blank spaces under the heading "South China Sea" until a consensus can be reached.

Laos, which also is a China

ally, has trod carefully and not taken sides because of its position as the host.

A diplomat who attended closed door meetings told The Associated Press: "Cambodia is the villain *deja vu* 2012. It's really a loyalist of the big country C," the diplomat said, referring to China.

Another diplomat said that the United States also did not push China during Saturday's discussions, leaving ASEAN countries with little firepower. The U.S. was more keen on getting the region's support on chastising North Korea, and

ignored the South China Sea during the discussions, said the diplomat.

U.S. and Chinese officials were meeting ASEAN ministers as part of broader talks.

Tran Viet Thai, deputy director of the Institute of Strategic Studies, a Vietnamese government think tank, described the

arbitration tribunal's ruling as very important because, theoretically at least, it should help resolve disputes, uphold the law and clarify the stance of the parties. "But at this point, it is not a magic stick ... it's not a solution to everything, but rather it needs to be combined with other measures."

IS attacks protest in Afghan capital, kills 80 people

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—The Islamic State group has claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing on a peaceful protest in the Afghan capital on Saturday that killed at least 80 people and wounded more than 200, marking the first time the extremists have struck Kabul and raising fears of their growing strength and capability in Afghanistan.

The attack was the deadliest to hit Kabul in 15 years of civil war. It struck a demonstration by Afghanistan's Hazara ethnic community, who were marching for a major regional power line to be routed through their home province. The Hazaras are Shiite Muslims, most Afghans are Sunnis.

Footage on Afghan television and photographs posted on social media showed a scene of horror and carnage, with numerous bodies and body parts spread across the square. Bloodied survivors

were seen being dragged clear for help, others walked around dazed or screaming.

Two suicide bombers had attempted to target the demonstrators, but one of them was shot by police before he could detonate his explosives, according to Haroon Chakhansuri, a spokesman for Afghan President Ashraf Ghani. He said that three city district police chiefs were injured and another three security personnel were killed.

Witnesses said that immediately after the blast, security forces shot in the air to disperse the crowd. Secondary attacks have been known to target people who come to the aid of those wounded in a first explosion.

Road blocks that had been set up overnight to prevent the marchers accessing the city center or the presidential palace hampered efforts to transfer some of the wounded to the hospital, witnesses said.

Floods kill at least 154 across China, leave scores missing

BEIJING (AP)—Torrential rains that have swept through China have killed at least 154 people and left 124 missing, officials said Saturday, with most of the casualties reported from a northern province where villagers complained about lack of warning before a deadly flash flood.

The rains, which began on Monday, have flooded streams, triggered landslides and destroyed homes across the country. Most of the fatalities were reported in the northern province of Hebei, where the provincial Department of Civil Affairs said 114 people were killed and 111 others were missing.

More than 300,000 people were evacuated in Hebei, and the province made another round of appropriations of tents, blankets, rain boots and generators, the department said.

In the Hebei city of Xingtai

alone, 25 people were killed and another 13 were missing.

The Xingtai village of Daxian was swamped by a flash flood early Wednesday as residents were asleep. Eight people, including three children, were killed and another was missing in the flood, according to the Xingtai government.

But the tragedy did not surface until Friday, when accounts, purportedly by local residents, began surfacing on Chinese social media of angry villagers blocking roads, accusing the local authorities of failing to notify them in time for evacuation when an upstream reservoir discharged the floodwaters.

The online posts—accompanied by photos of drowned victims—also accused local officials of covering up the tragedy by lying about having no deaths in the area. State media later confirmed that a

local official had said Wednesday afternoon that the flash flood caused no fatalities.

Some of the accompanying photos showed images of apparently drowned children lying in mud, their bodies swollen and their skin pale. In another photo, local villagers and an official knelt before each other, with state media reporting that the official was trying to console the grieving family members.

Although removed from social media by Saturday morning—apparently by censors—the postings had already caused a national uproar, with members of the public demanding accountability from local authorities. Chinese journalists rushed to the village Friday night and reported on the disaster.

In response, local authorities started to release casualty figures and offered explanations late Friday.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Tiger mauls woman to death in Chinese wildlife park

BEIJING (AP)—Siberian tigers at a wildlife park in Beijing mauled a woman to death and wounded another when they stepped out of their car in an enclosure, a Chinese state-run newspaper said. A tiger pounced on one of the women after she got out of a private car in which she was touring the Beijing Badaling Wildlife World on Saturday, the Legal Evening News reported. The second woman was killed by another tiger that leapt at her after she stepped out of the vehicle to try to help her companion, the report said. The Yanqing district government confirmed in an official microblog post that the tiger attack took place at the park, which lies at the foot of the Great Wall. It offered few details but said the injured person was being treated.

Thousands attend funeral for slain critic of Cambodia leader

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—Tens of thousands of Cambodians have marched in the funeral procession for a leading government critic who was fatally shot in an attack that raised suspicion of a political conspiracy. Kem Ley was shot on July 10, and a former government soldier told police he killed him over a money dispute. The suspect's wife, however, said they were too poor to loan money. The massive procession

on a 70-kilometer (50-mile) journey started at dawn Sunday from a Buddhist temple in Phnom Penh to Kem Ley's hometown in Takeo province. Prime Minister Hun Sen, often a target of Kem Ley's criticism, has promised a thorough investigation into the killing, which came at a time of political tensions that began last year with legal and other pressures against the opposition.

India asks 3 Chinese journalists to leave country

NEW DELHI (AP)—The Indian government has asked three Chinese journalists working for official Xinhua News Agency to leave the country this month, refusing to extend their visas. An Indian official on Sunday declined to disclose reasons for refusal to renew the visas, but said Xinhua could send their replacements. The official said the three journalists had received several visa extensions and one of them has been in India for the past seven years. The official spoke on condition of anonymity as he was not authorized to talk to reporters. A Hindu newspaper report on Sunday said the three travelled to southern Indian city of Bangalore recently and met exiled Tibetan activists, which became an issue with the Indian government. Xinhua and China's Foreign Ministry did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

World

Police: Munich suspect was obsessed with mass shootings

MUNICH (AP)—The gunman whose rampage at a Munich mall left nine people dead was a depression-plagued teenager who avidly read books and articles about mass killings and apparently tried to lure young victims to their deaths through a faked Facebook posting, authorities said Saturday.

Information from witnesses indicated that his hatred of foreigners might have played a role in the mass shooting, even though he himself was the German-born son of Iranian asylum-seekers.

Most of the dead were youths and all were Munich residents of varied ethnic backgrounds. Hueseyin Bayri, who witnessed one boy's death, told The Associated Press the shooter screamed a profanity about foreigners and said "I will kill you all" as he pulled the trigger. A video shot of the perpetrator



German Interior Minister Thomas de Maiziere, left, and Bavaria's Interior Minister Joachim Herrmann, right, give a media conference in front of the Olympia shopping center where a shooting took place leaving nine people dead the day before in Munich, Germany, Saturday, July 23, 2016.

14 and 19, Munich police chief Hubertus Andrae said. The fact that most of the dead were so young added to what Chancellor Angela Merkel called "an evening and night of horror."

It started as a normal Friday evening. A Munich mall was buzzing with shoppers, and across the street, customers were enjoying a meal at a McDonald's restaurant.

Earlier that day, the shooter hacked a Facebook account and sent a message inviting people to come to the mall for a giveaway, said Robert Heimberger, the head of Bavaria's criminal police.

Investigators say they are still looking for a motive for the attack but Munich prosecutor Thomas Steinkraus-Koch noted the gunman apparently



was undergoing psychiatric treatment for problems including depression. Interior Minister Thomas de Maiziere said authorities were checking reports the teen may have been bullied by his peers.

Witnesses and a dramatic cell-phone video that police think is genuine indicated the gunman was unstable and disliked foreigners.

The shooter yelled anti-foreigner slurs both at a person verbally sparring with him from a balcony, which was caught on film by a neighbor, and later also inside the mall.

After Munich shooting, tearful witnesses linger at scene

MUNICH (AP)—It was the beginning of a typical Friday night out. Crowds streamed through Munich's glass-and-concrete Olympia Shopping Mall, while across the street, a mostly young crowd relaxed in a McDonald's restaurant.

Then the first shots rang out.

On Saturday, the buzz was replaced by silence. Instead of shoppers, kids hanging out or older folks sitting in arm chairs, the mall was empty, except for police and white-clad cleanup crews wiping away traces of a shooting spree that left nine victims dead and an 18-year-old gunman dead from an apparent suicide. Over two dozen more were injured.

Police barriers remained up for most of the day. Outside, nearby residents from high-rise apartment buildings behind the mall left candles and flowers. Witnesses lingered hours after the end of the tragedy, apparently in disbelief at what had happened. Many appeared to be in shock, and some cried as they mourned young victims they did not know but saw die.

The shooter was a dual Iranian-German national born in Germany after his parents sought asylum there. But witnesses said he shouted anti-foreigner slurs as he pulled the trigger.

The mall was built in a sleepy suburban part of Mu-

nich with a high immigrant population. Eight of the nine dead were from 14 to 20 years old. All were Munich residents of various ethnic backgrounds.

Hueseyin Bayri, who witnessed one teenager's death, said the shooter screamed a profanity about foreigners, adding "I will kill you all" as he pulled the trigger. A video shot of the perpetrator also showed him yelling anti-foreigner slurs.

The 18-year-old high-school student from Munich with Iranian and German citizenship also showed him yelling anti-foreigner slurs.

Police told reporters that a search of the red backpack lying next to his black-clad corpse revealed that the shooter was carrying more than 300 rounds for the 9-millimeter handgun he used to kill his victims.

The filed-off serial numbers of the Glock made it difficult to establish its origin. But investigators said the gunman, identified by German officials only as David S., had no permit to carry it.

One victim was 45, another 20 and the rest were between

zenship also wounded more than two dozen others Friday night before turning his illegal Glock 17 pistol on himself, ending a shooting rampage that could have become even more tragic.

Police told reporters that a search of the red backpack lying next to his black-clad corpse revealed that the shooter was carrying more than 300 rounds for the 9-millimeter handgun he used to kill his victims.

The eight immediately surrendered to Greek police. They insist they were not involved in the attempted coup, had been tasked with transporting wounded soldiers and

allow the plane to overcome the challenging high temperatures across Saudi Arabia. "Just took off from Cairo to achieve the 1st round-the-world solar flight. A dream I have since 1999," pilot Bertrand Piccard tweeted after Solar Impulse 2 was airborne. The solar plane had arrived in Cairo on July 13 after a flight from Seville, Spain. The aircraft landed in Seville on June 23 after an unprecedented three-day flight across the Atlantic.

8 Turks who fled to Greece are a diplomatic 'hot potato'

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—The Turkish military helicopter that landed in the Greek border city of Alexandroupolis just as an attempted coup was being quashed in Turkey has turned into one of the toughest diplomatic challenges to date for Greece's relatively inexperienced government.

On board were eight Turkish military personnel—all unarmed helicopter crew members, it later turned out—who issued a mayday signal and were granted permission for an emergency landing.

The eight immediately surrendered to Greek police. They insist they were not involved in the attempted coup, had been tasked with transporting wounded soldiers and

civilians and had fled for their lives after coming under fire from Turkish police.

Turkey disputes their claim, and has demanded their return to stand trial for alleged participation in the violent attempt to overthrow the government.

But the eight have applied for political asylum in Greece, saying they would be in danger if returned to Turkey amid President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's widespread purges of the military and civil service in response to the failed coup.

Greece is now obligated to go through the asylum procedure, which can take weeks.

Their arrival on board a Black Hawk helicopter on July 16—and their asylum ap-

plications in particular—have created a diplomatic headache for Greece, which has a long history of delicate relations with its much larger and more powerful eastern neighbor.

The two countries last came to the brink of war 20 years ago over a territorial dispute in the Aegean Sea that separates them, and while they have since enjoyed far warmer ties, tensions are never far away. Greece often complains of Turkish fighter jet violations of its airspace in the Aegean.

The Turkish helicopter case will also test the country's relatively new coalition government, which came to power last year and consists of the left-wing Syriza party, which had never been in government

before 2015, and the small nationalist Independent Greeks party, whose leader is the defense minister.

"This was a hot potato that literally landed on Greek territory," said Thanos Dokos, director of the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy think tank. The government "is torn between the sensitivities of the Syriza party on human rights and asylum issues on the one hand, and on the other the cynicism of any governing party when it comes to issues affecting the country's foreign policy."

Greek officials quickly returned the helicopter, and have suggested they would like to return the eight as well.

WORLD BRIEFS

Solar plane leaves Cairo on last leg of globe-circling trip

CAIRO (AP)—An experimental solar-powered airplane took off from Cairo for Abu Dhabi early Sunday on the last leg of its globe-circling voyage, mission organizers said. The Mission Control Center tweeted that the Solar Impulse 2 is expected to land in Abu Dhabi after a 48-hour flight. Mission Control said it had identified a weather window that could

allow the plane to overcome the challenging high temperatures across Saudi Arabia. "Just took off from Cairo to achieve the 1st round-the-world solar flight. A dream I have since 1999," pilot Bertrand Piccard tweeted after Solar Impulse 2 was airborne. The solar plane had arrived in Cairo on July 13 after a flight from Seville, Spain. The aircraft landed in Seville on June 23 after an unprecedented three-day flight across the Atlantic.

Mexico weighs house arrest for aged drug lord

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexico's government is studying a request to place imprisoned 86-year-old drug lord Ernesto Fonseca Carrillo under house arrest, an official said Saturday. Fonseca Carrillo, who is also known as "Don Neto," is considered one of the founders of modern Mexican drug trafficking. He is serving a 40-year sentence for the 1985 slaying of

Drug Enforcement Administration agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena. A federal official who was not authorized to be quoted by name said the government is "analyzing the legal aspects of the possibility" of allowing him to serve out his sentence under house arrest. He is currently being held at a top-security prison in the western state of Jalisco. Mexican courts have said Fonseca Carrillo is eligible for the program, as are other aged or ill inmates.

Focus

Boy Scouts faring well a year after easing ban on gay adults

By DAVID CRARY and BRADY McCOMBS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK (AP)—There were dire warnings for the Boy Scouts of America a year ago when the group's leaders, under intense pressure, voted to end a long-standing blanket ban on participation by openly gay adults. Several of the biggest sponsors of Scout units, including the Roman Catholic, Mormon and Southern Baptist churches, were openly dismayed, raising the prospect of mass defections.

Remarkably, nearly 12 months after the BSA National Executive Board's decision, the Boy Scouts seem more robust than they have in many years. Youth membership is on the verge of stabilizing after a prolonged decline, corporations which halted donations because of the ban have resumed their support, and the vast majority of units affiliated with conservative religious denominations have remained in the fold—still free to exclude gay adults if that's in accordance with their religious doctrine.

Catholic Bishop Robert Guglielmo of Charleston, South Carolina, whose duties include liaising with the National Catholic Committee on Scouting, says he knows of no instances where a Catholic unit—there are more than 7,500—has taken on an openly gay adult leader since the policy change. Gay sex and same-sex marriage are considered violations of church teaching.

The Boy Scouts' national leadership "has been wonderfully supportive," Guglielmo said.

Leaders of the Southern Baptist Convention, the largest Protestant denomination in the U.S., were unhappy with the BSA's easing of the ban on gay adults, but did not call on individual churches to disaffiliate with troops that they sponsored.

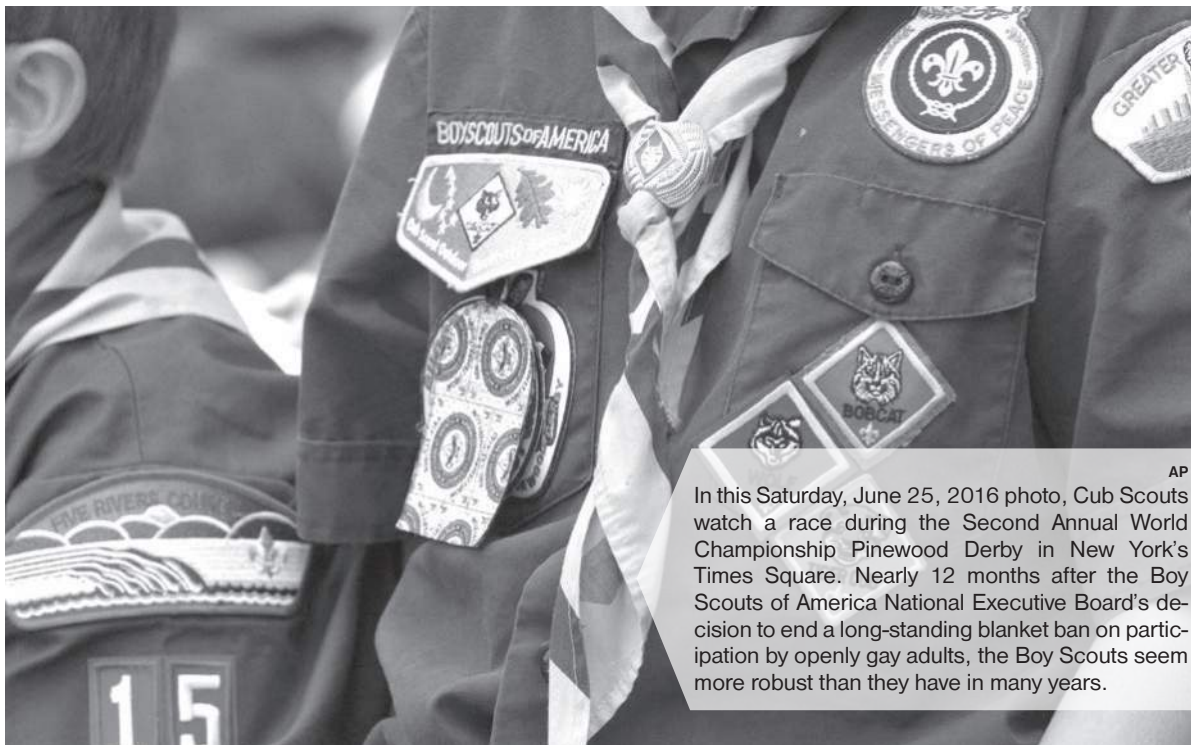
A year later, the number of Southern Baptist churches that did cut ties with Scouting is "in the double digits," far outnumbered by those who continued their sponsorships, according to Ted S. Spangenberg Jr., president of the executive board of the Association of Baptists for Scouting.

"A few of the churches that left are starting to trickle back as the knee-jerk reaction is over," Spangenberg said. "We kind of like the way it looks—if you're faith-based, it's within your right to select the adult leaders who are going to uphold the tenets of your faith."

Spangenberg spoke by phone from a Boy Scout camp in Defuniak Springs, Florida, where he was serving as chaplain and all-terrain vehicle instructor.

Another leader pleased with the developments is Richard Mason, president of the BSA's Greater New York Councils, which serves nearly 50,000 youths in the New York City area.

In April 2015, the NY Councils played a key role in the BSA policy change, defying the ban by announcing the hiring of an 18-year-old gay



AP
In this Saturday, June 25, 2016 photo, Cub Scouts watch a race during the Second Annual World Championship Pinewood Derby in New York's Times Square. Nearly 12 months after the Boy Scouts of America National Executive Board's decision to end a long-standing blanket ban on participation by openly gay adults, the Boy Scouts seem more robust than they have in many years.

Eagle Scout to work at one of its summer camps. Soon afterward, New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman's office opened an inquiry into the BSA's membership policies and influence over local councils' hiring decisions.

Mason said the aftermath of the policy change has been overwhelmingly positive in New York. Some corporations and liberal religious groups that cut ties with the Scouts because of the ban have restored them, he said, while the Catholic archdiocese—initially wary of the change—has remained fully active with scouting.

The changes in BSA policy toward gay youths and adult leaders were "handled as professionally as I have seen any contentious issue handled during my career," said Mason, a lawyer experienced with complex bankruptcy proceedings.

Until last year, the Boy Scouts had explicitly adhered to a ban on gay adults for more than three decades, even taking a case all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court in 2000, when it won a 5-4 decision upholding its right to have exclusionary membership policies.

That ruling fueled protests against the BSA by gay-rights supporters. Some local governments barred the Scouts from using public schools or other municipal property. The 2012 ouster of a lesbian serving as a Cub Scout den mother in Ohio sparked a national petition campaign assailing the ban.

After vigorous internal debate, the BSA leadership decided in 2013 to allow participation by openly gay youth. However, the organization faced continued pressure to ease its ban on gay adults serving as paid staff or volunteers.

Some major Scout councils made clear they would defy the ban, and BSA headquarters became increasingly worried that it could face lawsuits from states that prohibit workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation.

At the urging of Robert Gates, the former defense secretary who was

BSA president at the time, the Scouts' National Executive Board voted on July 27, 2015, to end the blanket ban on gay adult leaders while allowing church-sponsored units to maintain the exclusion for religious reasons.

About 73 percent of all Scout units are sponsored by churches, some of them open to participation by gay adults.

The plaintiff in the Supreme Court case, James Dale, had been expelled from his position as an assistant Scoutmaster in New Jersey because he was gay. The New Jersey Supreme Court said his firing violated the state's nondiscrimination law, but the Boy Scouts prevailed in their appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Dale, now 45, is pleased that the BSA eased the ban but disapproves of the provision allowing church-sponsored troops to continue excluding gays.

"With the Boy Scouts, I want to be optimistic," Dale said. "What they've done is more than a half measure, but it's not where it needs to be."

Like several other major youth organizations, the Boy Scouts have experienced a membership decline in recent decades. Current youth participation, according to the BSA, is about 2.35 million, down from 2.6 million in 2013 and more than 4 million in peak years of the past.

However, Gates, in a speech in May before stepping down as BSA president, said there were encouraging trends, with the overall rate of decline slowing and an increase in the number of boys joining Cub Scouts.

"We are on the threshold of a significant historical event—a return to positive national growth for the first time in decades," Gates said.

There are no official statistics on how many gay adults have been accepted as BSA leaders.

"We do not inquire about the sexual orientation of our youth members, adult volunteers or employees," said Boy Scouts national spokeswoman Effie Delimarkos.

Since the policy change, there have been few news reports of gay

adults being rebuffed after trying to become BSA volunteers. One of the few such cases to receive coverage involved Greg Bourke of Louisville, Kentucky.

Bourke had served as an assistant scoutmaster for a troop sponsored by a Catholic church but resigned under pressure in 2012 because of the ban. After it was lifted, he applied for reinstatement, but was rejected at a face-to-face meeting with Archbishop Joseph Kurtz.

Bourke and his husband, Michael DeLeon, were plaintiffs in the case that resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court decision striking down state bans on same-sex marriage. The Louisville archdiocese indicated it was Bourke's marital status, as well as his activism, that led to the rebuff of his application.

"Boy Scout troops are ministries of the parishes in which they reside," the archdiocese said. "All pastoral leaders in these ministries should be able to provide a credible and integrated witness in their lives to the teachings of the Catholic Church, including its teachings on marriage."

Though the policy change did not trigger the massive defections that some critics predicted, there were some emphatic departures.

The Catholic bishop of Bismarck, North Dakota, David Kagan, announced within a week of the BSA decision that his diocese would end its affiliation. In addition, about 20 individual Catholic parishes around the country dropped their sponsorship of Scout troops, according to Guglielmo.

He said the number of youths participating in Catholic units had dropped slightly over the past year, but predicted the numbers would rise as more Catholics saw that the Scouts' policy change had not caused disruptions.

In Appleton, Wisconsin, Faith Lutheran Church severed its ties with Boy Scout and Cub Scout units it had sponsored for 60 years. Pastor Dan Thews said he could not accept the

idea of gay adults having influence over boys in the unit.

However, Delimarkos said new sponsors will assume oversight of both units. In several cases elsewhere, she said, organizations such as the United Methodist Church and the American Legion took over units which lost their sponsors.

"We are very encouraged by what looks like a minimal negative effect the policy change has had," Delimarkos said in an email.

In Utah, where most troops are sponsored by Mormon churches, the change appears to have had modest impact.

The Mormon Church sponsors more Scout units than any other organization in the U.S. and has used Scouting programs as a rite of passage for boys. Initially, the church said it was "deeply troubled" by the policy change but later committed to sticking with the Boy Scouts.

That period of indecision may have contributed to a drop in fundraising for the largest Boy Scout council in the country, the Utah National Parks Council, which had to lay off several staff members.

The council president, Stan Lockhart, said there has been little conversation about the policy change among parents and troops in the council, which has more than 83,000 youth participating.

The change opened the door for Scott K. Fausett to return to the organization he loved.

He grew up in Boy Scouts as a Mormon and was a troop leader until he came out as gay in 2008 and had to leave. He's now the leader of an all-inclusive troop sponsored by the Presbyterian Church in Salt Lake City.

"We don't care about somebody's religious beliefs, their ability, their disability, their sexuality," said Fausett, 46. "All we care about is that they live the Scout principles."

A Utah LGBT-rights group, Restore Our Humanity, has filed an application to organize a new Boy Scout troop with a "fully inclusive policy."

One of the groups that campaigned against the BSA's bans on gay youths and adults—Scouts for Equality—is trying to build a national network of Scout units that publicly identify as welcoming gays. Zach Wahls, a co-founder of Scouts for Equality, said this program is now active in 31 states, with participation by more than 4,800 youths and 2,300 adults.

"We still have a ways to go," said Wahls, 24, an Eagle Scout who was raised by lesbian mothers in Iowa.

One issue likely to confront the BSA in the future, Wahls said, is how to handle efforts by transgender boys to join Scout units.

A Girl Scout troop in Colorado accepted a transgender girl in 2011, but for now the Boy Scouts are not ready to follow suit.

Delimarkos said transgender youths would be welcome in coed programs, such as Venturing, but not in boys-only Cub Scout and Boy Scout units.

Health & Fitness

Convinced you need a fitness tracker? Think again



AP

Six fitness tracking devices measuring step counts and other fitness features are worn Wednesday July 20, 2016, in New York. Clockwise, from top left are the: Garmin Vivoactive, Fitbit Blaze, Garmin Vivoactive HR, Samsung Gear Fit2, Apple Watch and Fitbit Surge. Before spending as much as a few hundred dollars on one, see if your expectations align with its capabilities.

NEW YORK (AP)—Maybe you don't really need a fitness tracker.

It might be tempting to get one, now that the weather's nice and you're spending more time outdoors. A Fitbit or an Apple Watch, for instance, could prove useful if you're new to exercise or looking to increase physical activity. They nudge you to keep moving throughout the day and track workouts like running and cycling. Many devices also measure heart rate and sleep.

But if you're a procrastinator or have trouble staying motivated, a tracker can easily end up in a drawer. If you're already athletic or fairly stable in your routine, it might just tell you the same thing over and over again, which won't help much.

I speak from experience, having worn as many as seven trackers simultaneously to test them out. So know what you're getting—and what they don't do—before you spend as much as a few hundred dollars on one.

COUNTING STEPS

Fitness trackers typically use arm swings to gauge how far you've walked or run and push you to reach, say, 10,000 steps a day. Many also track floors climbed and calories burned.

They can keep you on track if you're new to physical activity—if you're the type to go for a walk at 11 p.m. just to meet that daily goal. But a tracker won't do much if you keep telling yourself, "tomorrow."

Once you hit that goal consistently, you might be inclined to leave your tracker in a drawer. But if you're competitive, Fitbit and other companion phone apps will let you enlist peer pressure by joining groups that track, challenge and taunt each other to meet

and exceed those arbitrary goals. Some devices, like the Apple Watch, will also step up your goals as you improve.

Of course, this count isn't perfect. Trackers might give you bonus steps for doing the dishes or even, um, punching someone, as they're measuring arm movements. A bike ride also won't reward you with steps, though some devices will credit you with calories burned.

HEART BEATS

Mid-range and higher-end trackers offer heart-rate monitoring, but these aren't medical devices approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Measurements can vary wildly at times—one I tried briefly recorded a deadly 243 beats per minute, and another a sub-normal 43—but most readings are close enough to give you a general sense of your workout intensity. A higher heart rate means your workout is tougher—though heavy breathing and fatigue will also tell you that.

FOR WORKOUTS

These devices are awful at translating steps to miles, and very few let you calibrate your tracker by checking it against a known distance. GPS in higher-end trackers help, but that drains the battery more quickly, so many long-distance runners might see their trackers die before they're finished.

Most GPS fitness trackers also aren't as versatile as a GPS device fine-tuned for running, cycling, golfing or whatever your sport is. And while trackers are typically water resistant, few work for swimming.

A tracker lacking sports-specific features can still be useful. You might run three miles with a GPS running watch and use the tracker to make sure you're not sitting

the rest of the day.

HOW'S YOUR SLEEP?

Most trackers also monitor sleep, though Apple and Android smartwatches require third-party apps. If you toss and turn a lot, the tracker will mark you as a light sleeper. If you get up to use the bathroom, the tracker will note that, too.

But is it useful? While a tracker might deem you a light

sleep, it can't guide you to better sleep. All it can do is recommend more sleep.

DO YOU HAVE A DESK JOB?

Even if you meet step goals, prolonged sitting can be unhealthy, too. Many devices now have reminders to get up and walk around, though they're useless if you keep ignoring the prompts. Sometimes they even nag you while

you're in bed—which is especially irritating if your tracker is also on your case about getting more sleep.

YOUR PHONE

Many key features are already available on phones. The iPhone has Health built-in for counting steps, while you can get Google Fit for Android. You can also download Moves for either system. Beyond steps, GPS apps such as

Strava will track running and cycling workouts.

A tracker could still be a worthwhile investment for some people. The phone won't record sleep or remind you to take breaks, nor will it record steps when your phone sits on a desk. Microsoft's Band 2 adds a UV sensor to warn you when you need sunscreen, while the Samsung's Gear Fit2 can track squats and other strength training.

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

In Loving Memory of

†EDWARD ULLOA MARATITA

Fondly called Ed or Senator Ed

August 04, 1949 – July 19, 2016

Was called to join our Creator on Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at the Commonwealth Health Center

In his new life, he now joins his
Parents: Pedro Songao and Maria Atalig Ulloa Maratita
Siblings: Juan, Jose and Mаметto (Mamet) U. Maratita
In-Laws: Jose Q. Babauta, Joaquin J. Castro, Henry S. Sablan
Reared Parents: Ramon B. and Carmen U. Blas
Parents in Law: Ramon DLCruz and Mercedes Mesngon Castro
In-Laws: Isabel S. and Raimundu H. Manglona, Manuel L. and Esperanza C. Chong, Ramon M. Castro

His wonderful and loving memories will forever live in the hearts of his:
Wife: Rosa Castro Maratita
Children: Edward Jr. C. and Lea Del Rosario Maratita (Frannie, Edward III, EllaRose and Joachim)
 Cheryl M. and Antonio C. Reyes Jr. (Auston, Adina, Aneshia, Mai'Ana, Anina and Antonio)
 Peter Ray C. Maratita
 Dominic C. and Cheslin E. Castro (Chen Paul, Rose Ophelia and Dominic)

Siblings and In-Laws: Melchor U./Isabel S. Maratita and Family
 Gloria M. Hossain and Family
 Beata (Vicky) M. and Francisco R. Sablan and Family
 Elisa M. Castro and Family
 Delia M. and Ramon B. Camacho and Family
 Romana U. Maratita and Jesus S. Cabrera and Family
 Janet U. Maratita and Family
 Juan U./Tracy A. Maratita and Family
 Vicente U./Delia S. Maratita and Family
 Rosalinda Ulloa and Donald C. Camacho and Family
 Leonisa F. Maratita and Family

Reared Siblings: Raymond U./Margaret A. Blas and Family, Joseph U. Blas and Family, Annie U. Blas and Family, Mayor June U. Blas/Jim Borja and Family, Colasita and Rodney Gumabon

In-Laws: Joaquin M. Castro and Family, Linda C. and Romeo Cinco and Family, Loreta C. and William Dolph and Flora T. Castro and Family

Ed will also be missed by numerous God Children, nieces, nephews and friends

MASS FOR HIS REPOSED SOUL IS BEING OFFERED AT SAN ANTONIO CHURCH AT 6:00 P.M.

HOLY ROSARY IS BEING PRAYED AT THE FAMILY RESIDENCE IN SAN ANTONIO AT 11:45 A.M. AND AT SAN FRANCISCO DE BORJA CHURCH, ROTA AT 6:30 P.M

ON JULY 27, 2016 - WEDNESDAY THE FOLLOWING SERVICES WILL TAKE PLACE AT SAN ANTONIO CHURCH, SAIPAN
HOLY ROSARY AND RESPONSO - 8:00 A.M
VIEIUNG AND FINAL RESPECT FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS: 8:30-9:30 A.M.
MASS - 10:00 A.M.

ED'S REMAINS WILL BE FLOWN TO HIS BEAUTIFUL BIRTH PLACE, ROTA, IMMEDIATELY AFTER

ON JULY 29, 2016 - FRIDAY
MASS of CHRISTIAN BURIAL WILL BE CELEBRATED AT 8:00 A.M. AT SAN FRANCISCO DE BORJA CHURCH, ROTA FOLLOWED BY INTERNMENT SERVICE AT SAN JOSE CEMETERY WHERE HE WILL BE AT A PEACEFUL REST WITH HIS CREATOR AND LOVED ONES.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase for your thoughts and prayers,

Rosa Castro Maratita, Children and Family
Siblings and Family (Mel, Glo, Vicky, Lis, Del, Mona, Janet, John, Ben, Rose, Lennie)

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, [a] I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
⁶ Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. — Psalm 23:4-6

Life & Style

Warner Bros. calms fans with fun 'Justice League' footage

SAN DIEGO (AP)—After “Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice” put the launch of the DC/Warner Bros. universe on shaky ground, the studio came back swinging at Comic-Con Saturday armed with movie stars, brand new footage and a sense of humor.

The 6,500-some fans in Hall H got a glimpse of never-before-seen footage from the superhero all-star film “Justice League” from director Zack Snyder, as well as the action-packed first trailer for “Wonder Woman,” starring Gal Gadot.

Snyder and the cast flew in from London to tease “Justice League,” which is currently in production and not set to hit theaters until November 2017.

The lively “Justice League” footage highlights Bruce Wayne’s recruitment of what will be the Justice League team, including The Flash (Ezra Miller), Cyborg (Ray Fisher) and Aquaman (Jason Momoa). Ben Affleck, who plays Bruce Wayne/Batman, hyped the film with his fellow cast mates, including Gadot and Superman actor Henry Cavill—putting to bed any lingering suspicions that his character was actually killed off for



Gal Gadot makes a Wonder Woman pose at the “Wonder Woman” panel on day 3 of Comic-Con International on Saturday, July 23, 2016, in San Diego.

good at the end of “Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice.”

The lighter touch in the “Justice League” reel is likely a direct response to the widespread criticism of the self-seriousness of “Batman v Superman,” and will be a pivotal moment for the studio in bringing together all of the personalities that they hope

will also stand on their own, much like Marvel and Disney have done with “The Avengers.” Warner Bros. has 10 films pegged to the interconnected universe over the next few years including “Suicide Squad,” which comes out next month, “Wonder Woman,” “Aquaman,” “The Flash,” and the stand alone “Batman

film, which Affleck is directing and starring in.

To kick things off, Affleck was joined on stage by all of his fellow directors David Ayer (“Suicide Squad”), Patty Jenkins (“Wonder Woman”), James Wan (“Aquaman”), Rick Famuyiwa (“The Flash”) and Snyder.

“DC is the foundation of

what we all know about comic books and heroes. To have my voice be a part of that is really exciting,” Famuyiwa said.

Wan, who made his name in horror films like the “Saw” and “Conjuring” films said that he’d be bringing some of that sensibility to “Aquaman” as well.

Neither Wan nor Famuyiwa had any footage to show, since “The Flash” and “Aquaman” don’t come out until 2018, but fans did get a first look at director Patty Jenkins’ “Wonder Woman,” which highlights the romance and World War I-era adventure of Diana Prince’s origins. The movie comes out in June of 2017 and will be the first time the iconic superhero has had her own film in her 75-year history.

“Knowing how many people care so much for this character ... it was important to portray (her) in a way everyone can relate,” Gadot said, seated alongside co-stars Chris Pine and Connie Nielsen, who plays her mother. Audiences first met Gadot’s “Wonder Woman” in “Batman v Superman.”

The baddies of “Suicide Squad,” out Aug. 5, took the stage too, including stars Will Smith, Margot Robbie

and Jared Leto.

“This is not a movie about good versus evil,” Smith said. “This is a movie about bad versus evil.”

It wasn’t all comic books and superheroes in the studio presentation, though. Audiences saw the first trailer for “Kong: Skull Island,” a 1970s-set King Kong story starring Tom Hiddleston, Brie Larson, John Goodman and “Straight Outta Compton’s” Jason Mitchell and Corey Hawkins, from director Jordan Vogt-Roberts that comes out in March 2017.

“Kong is film history. Kong is where genre met mainstream,” Vogt-Roberts said of the classic character.

The studio also unveiled a trailer for “The Lego Batman Movie,” an irreverent, joke-packed spinoff of the breakout “Lego Movie” character voiced by Will Arnett set for February 2017.

Charlie Hunnam was also there to tease “King Arthur: The Legend of the Sword,” which looks as frenetic and deadpan as most of director Guy Ritchie’s films, as was the cast and director of “Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them,” coming to theaters this November.

Marvel marks Comic-Con homecoming with a showstopper

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Marvel Studios took a year off from Comic-Con, but it came back with a pow on Saturday with a spectacle and star-filled presentation offering exclusive looks at “Spider-Man: Homecoming,” “Doctor Strange” and “Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2.”

“We only want to come when we have a lot of stuff to show you,” Marvel Studios head Kevin Feige said. Feige didn’t disappoint the 6,500 person crowd inside the convention hall with the nearly two-hour presentation.

They kicked things off with “Black Panther,” which doesn’t start shooting until January for a release in 2018. While there weren’t any assets to tease, they did bring out the cast, including star Chadwick Boseman, Lupita Nyong’o, Michael B. Jordan, the just-announced Danai Gurira, best known for “The Walking Dead,” and director Ryan Coogler.

Coogler, who directed “Creed” and “Fruitvale Station,” said that it was a very emotional experience being at Comic-Con. He actually came as a fan in 2009 and remembered sitting in the very back of Hall H.

“It’s absolutely crazy to be looking at my people from this view,” Coogler said.

The rest of the films on Marvel’s slate, even those which have just started shooting, had something to show.

Audiences saw a hilarious documentary-style “Thor” spoof from “Thor: Ragnarok” director Taika Waititi imagining what Thor (Chris Hemsworth) was up to while his buddies were off battling each other in “Captain America: Civil War.” Essentially, Thor moves to Australia and gets a dumpy white-collar roommate.

“Thor: Ragnarok” has just started filming for a Nov. 2017 release.

Those in Hall H also got a sneak peek at “Spider-Man: Homecoming,” which is just 10 days into its shoot.

Marvel Studios unveiled initial footage showing star Tom Holland as Peter Parker in the latest big-screen reboot of the web-slinger.

Director Jon Watts said “Homecoming” is simply a high school movie. Moderator Chris Hardwick added that it has some John Hughes vibes to it.

It’s the first modern “Spider-



President of Marvel Studios Kevin Feige, left, and actor Benedict Cumberbatch attend the “Dr. Strange” panel on day 3 of Comic-Con International on Saturday, July 23, 2016, in San Diego.

Man” movie to be done with the supervision of Marvel Studios. It’s being co-produced by Sony Pictures. This new Spider-Man was first unveiled in “Civil War” and became an immediate fan favorite. The film comes out next July.

Marvel brought out the production value for “Doctor

Strange,” starting out that portion of the presentation with a smoke and light show, which cleared to reveal star Benedict Cumberbatch on the stage.

“The scale of it is something else,” said Cumberbatch, no stranger to playing beloved characters.

The scene showed focused

in on Tilda Swinton’s The Ancient One teaching a reluctant Stephen Strange (Cumberbatch) about his crazy new powers. Director Scott Derrickson said he wanted to make sure the “mind-trippy visuals” of the comics were an integral part of the film, which bows in November.

Costumed ravagers took the stage to help tease “Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2,” out next year, as did stars Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana and Dave Bautista. The crowd went wild for an extended look at a scene with the adorable Baby Groot—a CG tree character, who in the last film was full-sized and voiced by Vin Diesel—staging an escape from captivity with Yondu (Michael Rooker) and Rocket Raccoon (Bradley Cooper). Rooker sat on the stage in full costume and makeup.

Kurt Russell, also present for the panel, was confirmed as Star Lord’s (Pratt) father in a newly release trailer, resulting in a resounding cheer from the audience. Less popular, though, was the announcement that “Guardians of the Galaxy” would be overtaking the Tower of Terror ride at Disneyland starting next summer with a new ride. Audience members booed at the concept image.

Marvel closed things out on a high note, however, with an obligatory all-Marvel photo, including the new Captain Marvel herself—Oscar-winner Brie Larson, who was greeted with a rapturous standing ovation.

Trump, by Trump: Ivanka Trump's dress in the spotlight

NEW YORK (AP)—It was a moment the head of any fashion label hopes for: A presidential candidate's daughter wears the brand's dress as she introduces him to accept the nomination. The speaker was Ivanka Trump, the sleeveless studded sheath came from her own line, and the candidate she spoke about was her father.

The next morning, she tweeted a link promoting the dress. It was a move that blended politics and business under a huge spotlight, as her father Donald Trump has done throughout the campaign.

Her ensemble was "modern, feminine and beautiful," said Peter Marx, president of the Washington, D.C.-area luxury women's fashion shop



AP
Ivanka Trump, daughter of Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, walks to the podium during the final day of the Republican National Convention in Cleveland, Thursday, July 21, 2016.

Saks Jandel. He said powerful politicians put a lot of thought into the image they're projecting through their clothes even if they're trying to communicate that clothes aren't important to them. He said all of Donald Trump's children showed an "immaculate" style at the convention.

Though the dress will not be available until this fall,

since Thursday night a similar blush-colored dress from the Ivanka Trump Collection has sold out at Nordstrom.com and Macys.com, a brand spokesperson said.

It's no surprise that Ivanka Trump might choose to wear something from her own brand, which includes clothing, accessories, shoes and fragrances. But using the RNC to market her clothing got people talking.

"This is pretty novel, other than her father trying to sell Trump Steaks himself in his prior television appearance," said Robert Kelner, a partner at the law firm Covington & Burling.

'American Pie' singer McLean takes plea in assault case

CAMDEN, Maine (AP)—"American Pie" singer Don McLean has admitted to domestic violence assault against his estranged wife, and will avoid jail time.

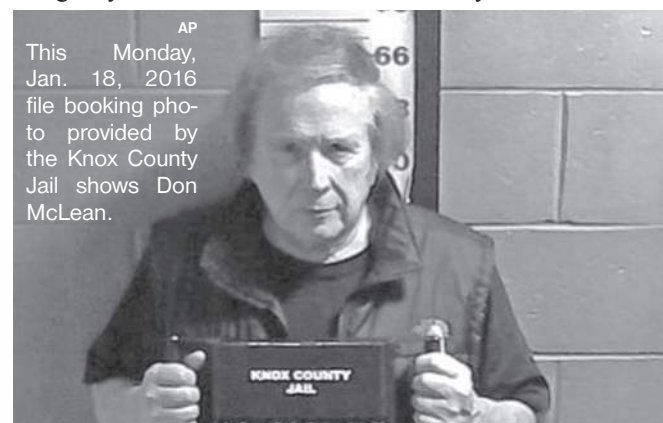
The singer-songwriter pleaded guilty in court Thursday to the charge and related counts. His lawyer says the punishment will be a \$3,000 fine if he stays out of trouble for a year.

McLean, of Camden, Maine, was arrested in January and initially pleaded not guilty.

A lawyer for Patrisha McLean said in March that his client was filing for divorce and that the legal papers cited "adultery, cruel and abusive treatment, and irreconcilable differences." The two had been married 30 years.

Don McLean's divorce lawyer denied those characterizations on McLean's behalf at the time.

McLean's original manuscript and notes to "American Pie" sold at auction for \$1.2 million last year.



AP
This Monday, Jan. 18, 2016 file booking photo provided by the Knox County Jail shows Don McLean.

Rihanna to play Marion Crane in 'Bates Motel'

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Rihanna is checking into the final season of "Bates Motel" as Marion Crane.

The cast and crew of the A&E drama announced Friday at San Diego Comic-Con International that the singer-actress will join them to portray the role originated by Ja-

net Leigh in the original film version of "Psycho."

"Let me tell you what a bad bitch is about to do," Rihanna said in a video played during the "Bates Motel" panel. "I'm about to check into the Bates Motel very soon."

"Bates Motel" executive producers Kerry Ehrin and

Carlton Cuse were on hand at the pop-culture convention with cast members Vera Farmiga, Freddie Highmore, Max Thieriot and Nestor Carbonell on Friday to discuss the show's upcoming fifth and final season.

Cuse said he and Ehrin heard Rihanna was a fan of the psychological series and called her casting the "perfect collision of creativity and fate." In the film, the character famously meets her bloody demise in the shower of Room 1.

The modern-day "Psycho" prequel debuted in 2013 and features Highmore and Farmiga as Norma and Norman Bates operating the motel in the coastal town of White Pine Bay, Oregon.

While best known for songs such as "Umbrella" and "Work," Rihanna's previous acting credits include the board game adaptation "Battleship" and the apocalypse comedy "This is the End."

Clapton guitar auctioned for \$45,000

DALLAS (AP)—A guitar owned by British singer-songwriter Eric Clapton has sold at auction for \$45,000 and the proceeds will be used to pay the medical bills of a well-known Texas musician whose wife recently died of leukemia.

Heritage Auctions in Dallas said in a statement Saturday the high bid for the 2014 Fender Stratocaster electric guitar was telephoned. Heritage spokesman Eric Bradley says the bidder requested anonymity, but the bid was more than twice what was expected.

It was one of two guitars Clapton played last year at his "Slowhand at 70" concert at London's Royal Albert Hall.

Money from the auction will help Johnny Nicholas cover medical bills from his wife's leukemia treatment and support leukemia research.



AP
In this Feb. 12, 2016 file photo, Rihanna attends the JFENTY PUMA by Rihanna fashion show in New York. Rihanna is checking into the final season of "Bates Motel" as Marion Crane.

Wife foresees a rocky road with husband suffering dementia

DEAR ABBY: After two failed marriages, I married a wonderful man whom I love but am not in love with. He recently had a seizure, after which he was diagnosed with moderate dementia.

All I see is a long, dark road ahead. We are both senior citizens with not a long time left on this Earth. My health is suffering because of this situation. I am extremely depressed, suffer from panic attacks and have lost any hope of happiness in the future.

I am torn between my responsibility to my husband and leaving to try to find some sort of joy in my life. If I stay, my mental and physical health will be ruined. If I leave, guilt will destroy me. Is there a solution?

OVERWHELMED IN HOUSTON

DEAR OVERWHELMED: Yes, and the first part of the solution is to realize you are NOT a weak sister — as much as you might think you are. You took a vow to stand by the man you married, and now it's time to honor it. He may not be the love of your life, but he is your friend. Friends don't cut and run when the going gets tough.

Talk to a geriatrician (M.D.) to find out what kind of care your husband needs now and will need in the future. You should also learn as much as you can about what services for seniors exist in your community. He may eventually need an assisted living facility, but in the meantime, a home caregiver

may be able to help him with personal grooming and give you some time to yourself. If he has children or other family members, they might be willing to pitch in and help.

While a diagnosis of dementia is daunting, I urge you to enjoy the time you have with him now. He's still the person you cared for enough to marry. He WILL be that person for quite a while. You may be a senior, but you're still vital and may have many years ahead to enjoy life. If you fulfill your role as a supportive wife now, your chances of finding happiness when your husband's journey is over will be greater.

A final thought: You're not alone. There is support out there for you and your husband. Reach out to the Alzheimer's Association (alz.org; 800-272-3900) for information and local support and resources.

DEAR ABBY: I have been invited to a "gender reveal" party. I have never heard of such a thing. I mean, REALLY?

In my day, a married woman's first child was welcomed with a baby shower. Today, baby showers are given for three, four, five children of the same mother whether she's married or not. Am I out of the loop on this one? I anxiously await your reply.

NOT READY FOR THIS

DEAR NOT READY: Parents don't know what the sex of their child will be until they get the results of the first

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

or second ultrasound. Some of them choose to have the results presented to them in an envelope and given to a third person, to be shared with family and friends during a gender reveal party that is sometimes held in place of a baby shower. The results of the ultrasound are then announced either verbally or, in some cases, by serving attendees white or yellow cupcakes with cream centers that are either pink or blue.

Yes, it's an excuse to have a party, but why not celebrate? If the idea is a turn-off, no law says you must attend.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

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Position Title: Administrative/
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QUALIFICATIONS: Holder of a
Bachelor's Degree. Must have at
least two (2) years' work experience
in public accounting office. Must
have at least five (5) years' work
experience in an administrative
position and extensive exposure
working with company executives.
Must have at least five (5) years'
work experience in accounting
work. Be able to assist in income tax
return preparation and typing and
formatting of financial statements.
Must be knowledgeable in MS
Excel, Word and common
accounting and tax software such
as QuickBooks and Pro Series.
Salary will be commensurate with
qualifications and experience,
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mail your resume at P.O. Box
503198 Saipan, MP 96950.

(2) Boom Truck Driver; (2)
Warehouse Man. Contact Jenny
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Needs to be physically fit and willing to work
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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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- Must have knowledge in Chinese products
and Chinese language
- Must be hardworking and honest

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\$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable

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235-6527/28 or 285-1317

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responsible for attaining the objectives established for
the boutique, effectiveness of the operation, and the
competitive position of the company's brand while
ensuring a flawless representation of the company at
all times. Another important responsibility is the
training and development of the Store's sales team.

Requires: High School Diploma or a GED with one (1)
to two (2) years of related or applicable work and
management experience in luxury retail environment.
Must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings,
holidays, and weekends. Must be familiar with the
POS System.

Interested applicants may send their applications
or resumes via email to
ceti_recruitment@tanholdings.com. To be considered
for immediate interviews, resumes/application
documents must be submitted not later than July 27,
2016. Applications for Employment are available at
the Century Tours Office, Kanoa Resort. Background
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Penta Pacific, LLC

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Ensure that the grounds of buildings, parks
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(2) Building Maintenance Worker
Knowledge of small carpentry, electrical job,
plumbing and repairs as needed.

Salary \$6.55 per hour

**U.S. Citizens or U.S. Resident
Applicants Preferred**

For interview appointment:
Please contact: Lorna S. Rivera
Tel. no. (670) 233-1041 or 233-1806

**TINIAN CASINO GAMING
CONTROL COMMISSION**

Municipality of Tinian and Aguigan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino
Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives
notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on
Friday, July 29, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC
Conference Room.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Minutes

- Special Meeting - April 16, 2015
- Special Meeting - April 21, 2015
- Regular Meeting - April 21, 2016
- Special Meeting - May 05, 2016
- Public Hearing - June 24, 2016

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ¹

III. REPORTS

- Chair's Report
- Executive Director's Report

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

- TCGCC Budget - Fiscal Year 2017
- Casino Key Employee License
Application

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION ²

**VII. MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE
MATTERS**

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

¹ Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is
limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit
written comments.
² Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet
in executive session at any time.

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Responsible for preparing estimates for all the materials,
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bachelor's degree in Engineering or a related field is strongly
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Successful candidates will be required to provide police and
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MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
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SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

MARIANA ISLANDS
HOUSING AUTHORITY,
Plaintiff,
vs.
LAWRENCE M. FLEMING
and HERMINIA C. FLEMING,
Defendants

CIVIL
ACTION NO.
93-0253

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant
to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on
January 11, 2016, I will sell, at public auction, to
the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set
forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest
of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot
No. 005 I 509, situated in Saipan, Northern
Mariana Islands, containing an area of 743 square
meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of
Lands and Survey Official Cadastral Plat no.
2084/82, the original of which was registered with
the Land Registry as Document no. 14232 dated
May 14, 1992, the description therein being
incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will
be held on Friday, August 5, 2016, at the hour
of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A.
White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan,
Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open
to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms
and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from
the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale.
These terms and conditions shall govern the
conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 30th day of June, 2016:

/S/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

Mohammad Shajahan Ali
Petitioner,
vs.
Pensiliter Alipet
Respondent,

FCD-DI CIVIL
ACTION
NO. 16-0346
**SUMMONS FOR
PUBLICATION**

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified
to file any answer you wish to make to the
Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the
court, within thirty (30) days after service of the
Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy
of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is
P.O. BOX 504501, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as
practical after filing your answer or sending it to
the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed
with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307
Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for
you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this
Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for
you to appear personally until further notice. If
you fail to file and answer in accordance with this
summons, judgement by default may be taken
against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 15th day of July, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court

PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN

We are seeking for high energy individuals with a positive, can do attitude.
Pacific Islands Club, Saipan is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to
apply for the following positions:

(1) ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR
Minimum of five (5) years work experience with at least one (1) year of
supervisory experience, preferably in hospitality. Degree in accounting is
required; CPA preferred; Strong knowledge of Excel and Word and must be
knowledgeable in using Opera PMS, MAS 90, Kronos Payroll System and
WebCash Management System. Must be able to work evenings, weekends
and holidays.

(1) FRONT OFFICE MANAGER
Minimum of five (5) years of hotel/hospitality is required. Minimum of two (2)
years of previous experience managing the Front Office of a hotel is required.
Excellent Leadership with written and oral communication skills is necessary.
Must have the ability to manage all aspects of the Front Office operations,
including a Guest Relation, Call Center, and Guest Service operations; Must have
the ability to set Front Office Budget, monitor Profit and Loss. Must have the
ability to set an upsell program and work as part of the Yield Management team
in maximize revenue for the hotel. Must computer knowledge on as PMS-Property
Management System, Opera. Must be able to speak and understand one or more
of the following languages: Korean, Japanese or Russian; Must be able to work
graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) PASTRY COOK
Minimum of two (2) years of relevant work experience working in pastry for a
hotel. Associate's degree in Culinary Arts. Must be able to work evenings,
weekends and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Thursday, July 28th, 2016.
PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading
Dock/Employee Entrance.
Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.

PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a
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Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to
publication date

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Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day
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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are
met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after
the first day of publication. Errors should be called in
before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves
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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to ap-
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8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to
approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to
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proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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1	x	2	=	2	i	s	i	s
2	x	2	=	4	i	s	i	s
3	x	2	=	6	i	s	i	s
4	x	2	=	8	i	s	i	s
5	x	2	=	10	i	s	i	s

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Find today's solution in classified section

Giants beat Yankees in 12 innings, stop skid



NEW YORK (A.P.)—Mac Williamson had crossed paths with Ivan Nova before.

"Fun fact about Nova. I had TJ the same day he did," the San Francisco Giants rookie said, thinking back to their visit to Dr. James Andrews for Tommy John surgery on April 29, 2014. "How many guys face each other after you have surgery, the same day, the same surgeon? That's kind of cool."

Williamson started the comeback with a home run off Nova leading off the fifth inning, then hit a tiebreaking single in the 12th that lifted San Francisco over the New York Yankees 2-1 on Saturday to give the relieved Giants their first victory since the All-Star break.

"I think every good team goes through a little lull at some point in the season," Williamson said.

NL West-leading San Francisco had lost a season-high six straight games and had held just one lead in 57 innings following the break: when Buster Posey hit a go-ahead home run leading off the 10th inning at San Diego on July 16 only to have the Padres rally for a pair of runs in the bottom half against Santiago Casilla.

Williamson had allowed the Yankees to go ahead in the fourth. With Didi Gregorius on first, Mark Teixeira singled to right against Johnny Cueto, and Williamson allowed the ball to kick off his glove for an error that let Gregorius come home.

"I really was upset with myself," Williamson said. "I rushed the play down the line there trying to keep the double play in order there for Cueto."

Angels 7, Cardinals 2

In St. Louis, Adrian Gonzalez hit his eighth homer, red-hot Justin Turner got two more RBI and Los Angeles beat St. Louis to end the Cardinals' five-game winning streak.

Turner's two-run double capped a four-run third. He has 14 RBI since the All-Star break.

Gonzalez's 429-foot solo blast to center sparked a three-run sixth.

Mariners 14, Blue Jays 5

In Toronto, Nelson Cruz hit his ninth career grand slam and added a three-run shot, and Hisashi Iwakuma pitched six innings to win his fifth straight start in Seattle's victory over Toronto.

Cruz hit his slam off R.A. Dickey (7-11) in the third, then added a three-run drive

off Drew Storen in the eighth for his 20th career multi-homer game. He has 25 home runs this season.

Orioles 5, Indians 2

In Baltimore, Mark Trumbo hit his major league-leading 30th home run, Kevin Gausman pitched seven shutout innings and Baltimore beat Cleveland in a duel between first-place teams.

Pedro Alvarez also homered for the Orioles, who will seek to complete a three-game sweep of the AL Central leaders on Sunday. Cleveland has scored three runs in 18 innings thus far.

Marlins 7, Mets 2

In Miami, Giancarlo Stanton homered and had his first four-hit game since 2012, driving in three runs to give Jose Fernandez all the support he needed, and Miami beat New York.

Miami rocked Jacob deGrom (6-5), who allowed 10 hits and five runs, both season highs, and lasted just 3 2/3 innings in his shortest outing since August.

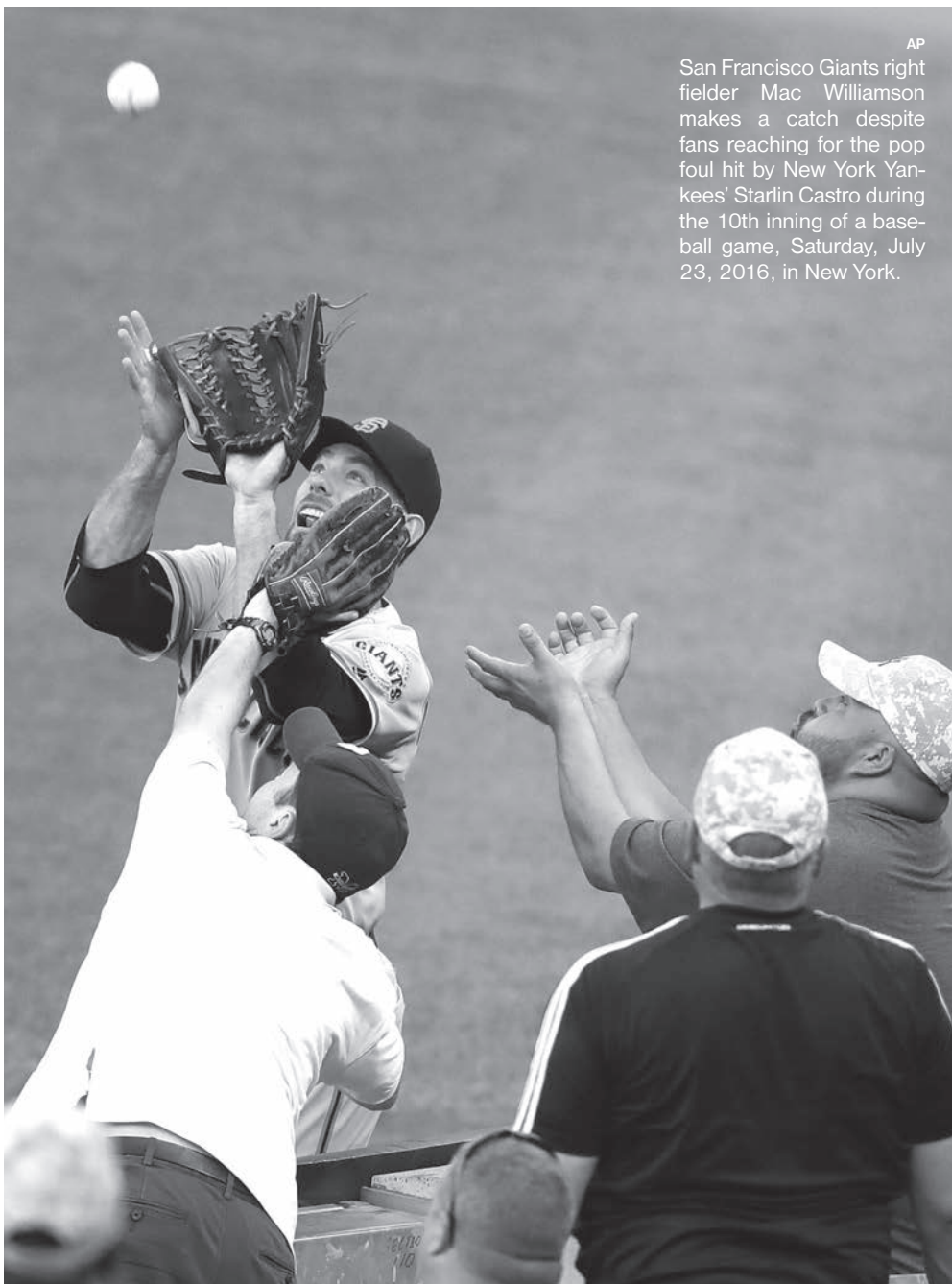
Twins 11, Red Sox 9

In Boston, Miguel Sano homered and Eduardo Nunez drove in three runs, including two in a five-run seventh inning, and Minnesota rallied to beat Boston.

Eddie Rosario had four singles to help the Twins win their second straight over Boston after losing the series opener Thursday.

Rangers 7, Royals 4

In Kansas City, Cole Hamels allowed one unearned run in 5 1/3 innings, Nomar Mazara and Adrian Beltre homered and Texas beat Kansas City.



AP
San Francisco Giants right fielder Mac Williamson makes a catch despite fans reaching for the pop foul hit by New York Yankees' Starlin Castro during the 10th inning of a baseball game, Saturday, July 23, 2016, in New York.

Hamels, who is 6-1 with a 2.24 ERA in his past nine starts, limited the Royals to five hits, struck out four and walked three. Hamels (11-2) lowered his ERA to 2.87.

The Rangers picked up only their fifth victory in 20 games.

Pirates 7, Phillies 4

In Pittsburgh, Gregory Po-

lanco and David Freese hit two-run singles during a five-run fifth inning to rally and Pittsburgh beat Philadelphia after top Pirates prospect Tyler Glasnow was removed with shoulder discomfort.

Glasnow exited his second major league start in the fourth inning. The rookie right-hander was recalled from Triple-A

Indianapolis earlier in the day and allowed two runs (one earned) and four hits in three-plus innings.

Nationals 3, Padres 2

In Washington, Pinch-hitter Stephen Drew hit a game-ending RBI triple in the ninth inning to lift Washington past San Diego,

Anthony Rendon opened the bottom off the ninth with a single off reliever Kevin Quackenbush (6-4). Drew entered with one out and drove a pitch off the center-field scoreboard, and Rendon raced around the bases for the winning run.

Brewers 6, Cubs 1

In Milwaukee, Kirk Nieuwenhuis hit two home runs, Zach Davies took a shutout into the seventh inning and Milwaukee beat Chicago.

Jonathan Lucroy also homered, giving Milwaukee the lead with a two-run shot in the first off John Lackey (7-7). Nieuwenhuis led off the fourth with a homer to center field, extending Milwaukee's lead to 3-0. Nieuwenhuis added a three-run homer to left in the eighth.

Athletics 4, Rays 3

In Oakland, Ryon Healy hit a game-ending home run in the ninth inning two batters after Jake Smolinski tied it with a two-run homer, and Oakland rallied past Tampa Bay.

Both home runs came off Rays closer Alex Colome (1-3), who had recorded 21 consecutive saves before giving up three runs to the A's.

Rockies 8, Braves 4

In Denver, Trevor Story hit two home runs to set an NL rookie record for shortstops and Colorado beat Atlanta.

Story had four hits including his 25th and 26th homers to pass his mentor, Troy Tulowitzki, who had 24 for the Rockies in 2007. Nomar Garciaparra of the Boston Red Sox set the major league record for shortstops with 30 in 1997.

Reds 6, Diamondbacks 1

In Cincinnati, Jay Bruce hit a three-run homer and barely missed another in Cincinnati's victory over fading Arizona.

The last-place Reds have won three consecutive series for the first time, finding success against other struggling teams. The Diamondbacks have lost 17 of 21.

Astros 7, Angels 2

In Houston, Evan Gattis had two home runs and four RBI in his return to the lineup, Collin McHugh threw six strong innings and Houston beat Los Angeles.

Gattis sat Friday with a bruised right hand after being hit by a pitch Wednesday. He came back Saturday and hit a three-run homer into the Crawford Boxes in left field in the second inning and added a solo shot off the facade in left-center in the fourth to give Houston a 5-0 lead.

Sale scratched after destroying White Sox jerseys

CHICAGO (A.P.)—Chicago White Sox ace Chris Sale was scratched from his start against the Detroit Tigers on Saturday night and sent home after he destroyed collared throwback uniforms that the team was scheduled to wear.

Matt Albers, who started in Sale's place, confirmed the incident, but the White Sox provided no details after their game against Detroit was suspended by rain after eight innings tied at 3 - the game will resume Sunday before the series finale.

"You probably know what happened," Albers said. "But we're going to keep it in-house."

FanRag Sports first reported Sale was protesting the 1976 jerseys, which were navy and sported unusual collars. It was 91 degrees with high humidity

when the game began.

Sale then cut up an unknown number of jerseys before the game and was told to leave the stadium. Albers said he was informed about 2 hours before the game that he would start.

"He's one of the best, absolutely," Albers said. "But we're here for teammates. We're here to pick each other up in good times and bad."

With not enough usable 1976 jerseys available, the White Sox wore white throwback uniforms from the 1983 season.

It's uncertain if Sale, 14-3 with a 3.18 ERA, will face further discipline.

"I'm not going to get into that," manager Robin Ventura said. "I just know he's not going to pitch tomorrow."

The White Sox didn't announce Sale was scratched until less than a half hour before the scheduled first pitch.

"The incident, which was non-physical in nature, currently is under further investigation by the club," general manager Rick Hahn said in a statement. "The White Sox will have no additional comment until the investigation is completed."

The White Sox marketing department touted the night as the "Throwback Game." It announced the team would wear collared, blue and white V-neck jerseys that were sometimes worn with shorts in the 1976 season under off-beat owner Bill Veech.

The crowd booed when Albers was announced as the starter while the teams

warmed up. He pitched two innings and the White Sox used six pitchers before the game was suspended following the third rain delay of the night.

With the White Sox fading from playoff contention, Sale's name has been mentioned as a possible trade target for contending teams.

The left-hander, known for his competitive streak and rigorous training program, has been outspoken in the past.

Sale was openly critical of team president Ken Williams during spring training when he said Drake LaRoche, the son of teammate Adam LaRoche, would no longer be allowed in the clubhouse. Adam LaRoche retired as a result, and Sale hung the LaRoches' jerseys in his locker.

IOC poised to rule on Russia's status for Rio

LONDON (AP)—As the clock ticks down to the opening ceremony in Rio de Janeiro, international Olympic leaders are facing a seminal moment.

With the credibility of the fight against doping on the line and the image of the Olympic movement at stake, the IOC will hold a crucial meeting Sunday to consider whether to ban Russia entirely from the Rio Games because of systematic, state-sponsored cheating.

Short of a blanket ban, the International Olympic Committee could leave it to individual sports federations to decide on a case-by-case basis whether to allow Russian athletes in their events.

The doping crisis represents one of the Olympic movement's biggest challenges since the boycott era of the 1980s, and how it plays out may well define Thomas Bach's IOC presidency.

The IOC's ruling 15-member executive board will meet via teleconference to weigh the unprecedented step of excluding Russia as a whole from the games. Bach and others have spoken of a need to balance "individual justice" versus "collective punishment."

Time is of the essence, with the games set to open in Rio on Aug. 5.

Russia's track and field athletes have already been banned by the IAAF, the sport's governing body, following allegations of state-directed doping - a decision that was upheld Thursday by the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Calls for a complete ban on Russia have intensified since Monday when Richard McLaren, a Canadian lawyer commissioned by the World Anti-Doping Agency, issued a report accusing Russia's sports ministry of overseeing a vast doping program of its Olympic athletes.

McLaren's investigation, based heavily on evidence from former Moscow doping lab director Grigory Rodchenkov, affirmed allegations of brazen manipulation of Russian urine samples at the 2014 Winter Games in Sochi, but also found that state-backed doping had involved 28 summer and winter sports from 2011 to 2015.

Bach said the findings showed a "shocking and unprecedented attack on the integrity of sports and on the Olympic Games" and declared the IOC "will not hesitate to take the toughest sanctions available against any individual or organization implicated."



AP
In this Aug. 29, 2013, file photo, Margarita Mamun of Russia perform with clubs during the 32nd rhythmic gymnastics world championships in Kiev, Ukraine. Russian Sports Minister Vitaly Mutko said the country's athletes who are banned from competing in next month's Olympics in Rio de Janeiro could go to a civil court to try and overturn the ban.

Games, where the wrestling competition starts on Aug. 14. Lalovic, a Serb who is also an IOC member, claimed the investigation had created an atmosphere of "hysteria" and he criticized former WADA president John Fahey of Australia for calling for an outright ban.

"I'm not here to defend Russia," Lalovic said. "They have to pay. But everyone has to take responsibility, including WADA. It's a no-win situation. Whatever decision the IOC makes, they will look bad."

WADA and many national anti-doping agencies and athletes' groups have led the calls for a total Russian ban from Rio.

A coalition of 14 national anti-doping agencies sent a letter to Bach saying the IOC's initial response did not meet his pledge of the "toughest sanctions available." The group called on the IOC to suspend the Russian Olympic Committee and set up a task force that could allow certain Russians to compete under a neutral flag if proven to be clean.

"Any Russian Olympic sport athlete who had not been subject to independent testing in recent months should not be in Rio," Richard Ings, former head of Australia's anti-doping agency, told the AP.

Russia also faces a possible ban from the Paralympic Games. Citing evidence in McLaren's report of doping among Russian Paralympic athletes, the International Paralympic Committee said Friday it will decide next month whether to exclude the country from the Sept. 7-18 event in Rio.

The decision for the IOC is loaded with geopolitical ramifications.

Never has a country been kicked out of the Olympics for doping violations. And Vladimir Putin's Russia is a sports powerhouse, a huge country seeking to reaffirm its status on the world stage, and a major player in the Olympic movement. Many international Olympic officials and federation leaders have close ties to Russia, which has portrayed the exclusion of its track athletes and calls for a complete ban as part of a political, Western-led campaign.

Putin, citing the U.S. and Soviet-led boycotts of the 1980 and 1984 Games, said the Olympic movement "could once again find itself on the brink of a division."

Former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev wrote an open letter to Bach on Friday to plead against a blanket ban.

"I am worried and deeply upset by the possibility that in the case of a ban on Russian athletes competing in the Olympics, the innocent will be punished along with the guilty," Gorbachev wrote. "For me the principle of collective punishment is unacceptable."

Bach and other Olympic officials have repeatedly

cited the difference between collective and individual punishment.

"It is obvious," Bach said last week, "that you cannot punish a badminton player for infringement of rules or manipulation by an official or a lab director in the Winter Games."

For many in the anti-doping community, however, the choice is simple: The extent of state-backed doping in Russia has tainted the country's entire sports system and the only way to ensure a level playing field is to bar the whole team, even if some innocent athletes will lose out.

Former WADA president Dick Pound, a senior IOC member from Canada, accused Bach of dithering and

failing to live up to his "zero tolerance" line on doping. He said the IOC will face a backlash if it decides against a full ban.

"I think it will go down very badly," Pound told The Associated Press. "I think there will be an athletes' revolt, a public revolt, maybe even the sponsors. You've got to take control of it, and show your leadership. The hesitation makes it look worse and worse."

If the IOC hands the authority to the sports federations, they may not have all the information they need from the McLaren report to act. Some sports, such as gymnastics, were not cited in the report and feel there is

no justification to ban Russians. And the federations all have different rules.

Wrestling accounted for 28 of the 312 positive tests that were covered up by Russia between 2011 and 2015, according to McLaren's report. Nenad Lalovic, president of wrestling's international federation, said he asked WADA to send him specifics but had yet to receive anything.

"This is madness," he said Saturday in a telephone interview with AP. "What can I do without any evidence? Do I have time to process these cases? Do the accused have a right to appeal? It's a legal minefield. If I try to ban someone, they will take us to court and we will lose."

Russia is the dominant force in the sport and would enter 17 athletes for the Rio



Rebuild complete, Jaguars expect to vie for AFC South title



JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — The overhaul is complete. The pieces

are in place. And for the first time in years, there are expectations for the Jacksonville Jaguars.

It might not be playoffs or bust in Jacksonville, but losing double-digit games is no longer acceptable.

The Jaguars spent the last four years rebuilding the roster, growing it mostly through the draft, and then supplemented the makeover by spending more than \$350 million (nearly \$150 million guaranteed) in free agency the last two years to sign 10

starters. Now, general manager Dave Caldwell and coach Gus Bradley believe they have a team capable of winning every week and competing for the AFC South title.

It's a welcome feeling for a franchise that is an NFL-worst 19-61 since 2010.

"It's kind of cool because there's a lot of hype and stuff in the community," quarterback Blake Bortles said. "But when you walk in the building, it kind of just stops. The noise stops because everybody in the building knows what our goal is and how we're going to go about doing it."

Jacksonville hasn't won more than five games in any

of the last five years, the kind of consistent losing that leaves fans screaming for change and management often responding.

But Jaguars owner Shad Khan has been patient during the restoration process. He even gave Bradley and his assistants one-year extensions in January, keeping them under contract through 2017.

Although Khan has declined to put a number on how many games Bradley must win to stick around beyond 2016, he said a winning record is "everybody's reasonable expectation at this point."

The Jaguars seemingly—finally—have the talent to make it a reality.

"The expectations in this building are what we had hoped for," Bradley said. "To keep building the roster through the draft, add some free agents to our current roster and we'd feel like our roster would keep getting better and better with each year that we've been doing it. And we're to this point right now."

"To me, it's great. This is what we'd hoped for, that you'd say, 'Hey, this is a good roster.' And the expectations, well, that's what we had planned. When we put this thing together, we felt like at this time, this is the type of roster that we'd have, so it's a good thing."

US women cruise past Costa Rica in Olympics send-off

KANSAS CITY, Kan.—Ridiculously dominant soccer team is still ridiculously dominant.

That was more or less the takeaway from the United States women's national team's final pre-Olympic tune-up friendly in Kansas City on Friday, a 4-0 victory over Costa Rica. Crystal Dunn, Mallory Pugh, Carli Lloyd and Christen Press got the goals as the Americans improved to 14-0-0 all-time against the Ticas with a 75-2 cumulative goal difference.

In Rio de Janeiro, the defending Women's World Cup champion Lady Yanks will chase a fourth straight Olympic gold medal and a fifth overall. If they reach the championship game again, they will have done so in all six editions of the women's soccer tournament at the



Summer Games.

The Americans took an encouraging step towards that

objective, giving a complete and resounding performance that utterly overwhelmed

Costa Rica. That the score wasn't totally lopsided probably had more to do with the

United States forward Christen Press (12) takes control of the ball as Costa Rica midfielder Cristin Granados (15) defends in the second half of a women's international friendly soccer match, Friday, July 22, 2016, in Kansas City, Kan.

on-field heat index of 106 degrees for the kickoff at 8 p.m. local time and U.S. misses than it did a lack of chances or any kind of defensive competence by Costa Rica.

From the first kick, the American high press sprung forwards Dunn, Pugh and Alex Morgan. Costa Rica withered under the pressure deep in its own half and gave the ball away in spots where the U.S. needed just a few moments to get to goal. The balance of power would never tip back.

In just the seventh minute, Dunn smacked a shot off the near post. And within a quarter of an hour, the U.S. was leading. Morgan picked out Meghan Klingenberg as she overlapped up the left. The defender had an acre of space and picked out the wide-open Dunn at the far post. She had a simple tap-in.

Then, Pugh ran at the defense without being bothered too terribly much and concluded her long dribble by beating goalkeeper Dinnia Diaz with a surprising shot to the near post.

In the sixth minute of first-half injury time—following one of several water breaks—Kelley O'Hara was fouled on a counter. Becky

Sauerbrunn floated a long free kick into the box, where Lloyd headed in well at the far post.

That goal will have boosted Lloyd's confidence as the captain and reigning world player of the year returns from injury—while fellow starters Megan Rapinoe, Morgan Brian and Tobin Heath still nurse various ailments and saw either limited or no time.

Pugh, the 18-year-old college freshman, was particularly impressive with her tireless toil in the first half.

Following the intermission, the USA didn't let up. A few minutes in, Lindsey Horan hit the post on excellent preparatory work by Lloyd. And Morgan got a handful of good looks, although she converted none.

Finally, Press capitalized on yet another American recovery high up the field. She was played in well by Allie Long and her finish was simple yet clinical.

With 11 days separating the Americans from the first of their Olympic group stage games against New Zealand, France and Colombia, in that order, head coach Jill Ellis's tactical evolution to a modern, technical, possession-obsessed and zippy team appears to be complete. The squad has been pared down to its 18-woman final roster and the system is well learned. The only remaining questions concern the health of the aforementioned players and Dunn, who took a late knock.



Blame game follows NBA's removal of Charlotte All-Star game

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)—The NBA All-Star Game's exit from North Carolina because of a law limiting protections for LGBT people represents some of the worst publicity yet for Republican Gov. Pat McCrory's re-election campaign, even as he dismisses the move as political correctness gone too far.

The 2017 event's departure from Charlotte deprives the state of an estimated \$100 million economic impact and comes after the law prompted PayPal and Deutsche Bank to cancel plans to add hundreds of jobs. The law known best for its restrictions on transgender bathroom access looms large in an election season that includes one of the nation's

most closely watched governor's races.

On Friday, McCrory told Charlotte radio station WFAE that the NBA's decision was "total P.C. B.S."

"It's an insult to our city. It's an insult to our state. And I think it sets a dangerous precedent of the corporate sports and entertainment elite basically asking for a quid pro quo on legislation or else they'll deny their service," he said.

Shortly after the NBA's announcement Thursday night, the governor who promotes himself as pro-business issued a statement lashing out at the sports and entertainment industries, the "liberal media" and his opponent in the fall race, the state's Democratic Attorney General Roy Cooper.

Cooper has refused to defend the law in court, while McCrory filed a federal lawsuit seeking to uphold it.

The law enacted in March requires transgender people to use restrooms corresponding to the sex on their birth certificates in many public buildings. It also excludes sexual orientation and gender identity from statewide antidiscrimination protections.

Republicans including McCrory are likely to maintain their rhetoric surrounding the law known as HB2, banking on conservative voters in rural areas who support the law, said Michael Bitzer, a political science professor at Catawba College.

"If you are seen as compromising or trying to find some way out of this, you will sim-

ply get hammered by your core base supporters," he said.

Still, Bitzer said that if more events pull out of the state, it will be hard for voters to ignore the law's impact. The NCAA, which has 2017 basketball tournament games scheduled in Greensboro, issued a policy shortly after the North Carolina law passed requiring host sites to demonstrate that they are "free of discrimination."

"When it comes to these kinds of events, maybe future NCAA basketball tournaments, I just have to wonder when that breaking point is over one's partisanship," Bitzer said.

BEARS

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ahead in doubles with six, nosing out the 5 of Jose Lizama Jr. and A.J. Lizama. Saralu also has

a lone homer to share the lead with the Aces' Lamar Iguel and the Bears' Peyton Lizama. In triples, Saralu and Iguel are also in a tie with four each.

In RBIs, A.J. Lizama's 20

gave him the top spot against Saralu (17) and Tudela (15), while Juan Iguel's 23 runs pace the 22, 21, and 20 of A.J. Lizama, Peyton Lizama, and Roke Tenorio, respectively.

JOEL

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tomorrow in the first game. Jonah, on the other hand, finished the round-robin elimination with a 6-2 card.

Joel overhauled a 12-point deficit at the start of the second half to steal the victory from Hagai, which has yet to win this season and will have its last chance to avoid being shutdown in the tournament when it plays Ezra tomorrow in the final game of the elimination.

Hagai had the opportunity to break into the win column when it led, 38-26, at the break, as Wyn Brillo dropped 16 of his 25 points in the first half.

However, Brillo and Hagai failed to keep its momentum in the second half, while Andrew Palino brought Joel back into the game in the final 20 minutes of play. Palino,

who had 10 points in the first frame, played better in the second, nailing 21 markers, including four of the team's last seven field goals.

Palino also drew enough support from Jordan Ocaya and J.P. Cruz in the second half to turn the tables on Hagai. Ocaya made 10 of his 14 markers in the final half, while Cruz had 8 of his 9 in that period.

In the second half, Jonah was on target right at the get-go en route to the 13-point winning margin.

Sam Darag, who had 39 points in their 77-55 trashing of Haggai last Tuesday, led Jonah anew, firing 37. Jethro Cruz added 27 in his last game for Jonah before leaving for Palau to play with the CNMI Junior National Team in the 2016 Micronesian Basketball U17 Tournament.

Cruz and Darag alternately

burned the hoops for Jonah, lifting their squad to a promising 56-38 halftime edge. Jonah never looked back from thereon, as Darag and Cruz continued to make successive baskets in the second half.

First Game

Joel 70 — Palino 31, Ocaya 14, Cruz 9, De Leon 5, Elchico 4, Ibanez 4, Ocanada 2.

Hagai 68 — Brillo 25, Wang 12, Gonzales 10, Alonzo 8, Chen 5, Xu 4, Del Carmen 4.

Scoring by halves: 26-38, 70-68.

Second Game

Jonah 87 — Darag 37, Cruz 27, Ponce 8, Cabrera 6, Bordon 5, Marcellana 4.

Nahum 74 — Cobacha 25, Chen 16, Cai 12, Sacdalan 12, Wang 3, Tenorio 2, Magno 2.

Scoring by halves: 56-38, 87-74.

CAJIGAN

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"I applaud Chris for getting this opportunity. Chris is a great kid and he is one of those players with a very outstanding work ethic. He will work his butts off to get better every game. He is a hard worker and I am sure he will do well at the University of Hawaii," Race said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Cajigan, who represented the CNMI in the North Pacific Regional Championships and Pacific Oceania Junior Championships for several years and in a series of tournaments in Australia in 2013, thanked Race for helping him improve his skills, saying that coaches like the latter make it easier

for players to develop their game. Cajigan added that when he moved to Guam more than three years ago, he stopped playing for nearly six months because he could not find someone in the caliber of Race.

"Then I met coach Daniel Llaenas and he helped me get back to tennis. He and the people I am with in California also made it possible for me to get a scholarship at University of Hawaii," said Cajigan, who moved to California on his junior year and spent his senior at a tennis academy (Erwin Tennis Training of tennis pro Michael Erwin).

"I competed in a lot of tournaments in California and those games really help me improve a lot to qualify to play for UH," he said.

Cajigan is thankful that a player like him, who grew up and hone his skills in a small island in the Pacific, is given the opportunity to play in NCAA. He encouraged juniors players from both the CNMI and Guam to keep working hard on their game and dream of making it to the collegiate ranks.

"It does not matter whether it is NCAA or the junior college leagues as long as you will have the chance to continue playing the sport you love after you graduate," Cajigan said.

"For beginners, just keep on playing and do not focus on the results. Enjoy the process of getting better—the results will come through working hard, training, and listening to your coaches," he added.

5th Genesis Cup Christian Churches Inter-Color Basketball League

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Joshua and Samuel players battle for the rebound during the regular season game in the 5th Genesis Cup Christian Churches Inter-Color Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



Gideon's Joseph Gatdula, right, tries to keep possession after getting a pass from his teammate, while Greg De Leon, stays close to him.



Ezekiel's Noni Eugenio follows through his point-blanked shot.



Joshua's Jonathan Nunag, third left, is fouled by Samuel's Jerome Reyes, second right.



Joshua's Alain Nunez is challenged by two Isaiah defenders.



Samuel's Vhoie Francia pulls up for a shot.



Samuel's Jerome Reyes barrels into the defense of Gideon's Ray Darag.



League commissioner Noel Puno, seventh left, poses with Caleb and Isaiah players before their game.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



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in 12 innings,
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Cajigan to play NCAA Division I tennis



OCEANIA TENNIS PHOTO
Chris Cajigan serves during the 2013 North Pacific Regional Championships held at the Pacific Islands Club-Saipan courts.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Former CNMI junior tennis player Chris Cajigan has joined the growing list of Commonwealth athletes who are given the opportunities to compete in the collegiate ranks.

Cajigan is set to suit up for the University of Hawaii this fall and is now in Japan to prepare himself for a higher level of play. "I am pretty excited with this opportunity to play in an NCAA Division I school and I know it's going to be tough so I am really preparing myself, physically and mentally, for the upcoming season," the 18-year-old said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* last weekend.

Cajigan, who will go to Hawaii early next month after his training sessions in Japan, is one of the two former CNMI junior players that will see action in collegiate tennis this school year. The other one is Mikayla Lopez, who is head-



ing to New Mexico to don the colors of the New Mexico Military Institute. To date, there are four (including Cajigan and Lopez) former products of the Commonwealth's tennis pro-

gram that are competing in the collegiate level.

Thea Minor, after completing her two-year stint with NMMI in the National Junior College Athletics Association, has moved to NCAA Division II and will be debuting for Henderson State University in Arkansas. Over in Hawaii, lefty Amami Sakano, will be playing his sophomore year with UH-Hilo's team.

CNMI Sports Hall of Famer Jeff Race, who coached Cajigan and company, couldn't help but be proud of the latter's latest achievement.

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Joel edges Hagai; Jonah tops Nahum

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Joel and Jonah gained contrasting wins in the youth division of the Genesis Cup Christian Churches Inter-Color Basketball League to remain in the Top 2 of the team standings after last Thursday's pair of

matches at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

In the first game, Joel rallied past Hagai, 70-68, while in the second match, Jonah dominated Nahum, 87-74. Joel is ahead of the five-team field with its 6-1 record and will try to seal the No. 1 spot in the standings with a victory against Nahum (1-6).

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Jonah's Jethro Cruz throws up a shot against two Nahum defenders during their first round game in the youth division of the Genesis Cup. Cruz scored 27 points in their 87-74 win over Hagai last Thursday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Bears players zero in on batting, pitching titles

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



The Chalan Kanoa Bears' A.J. and Jeffrey Lizama are on top of the pitching and batting races with one game left in their regular season schedule in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League.

A.J. is ahead in the batting contest as he posted an average of .481 after their 11-10 victory against Titanium last Wednesday. He went 26-for-54 at bat in the Bears' 13 wins in as many games in the double round-robin elimination to lead the BSI Aces' Ben Jones Junior. Jones, whose team has also one game remaining in the regular season, was 18-for-42 at the plate in 13 games for an average of .429.

Three other players earned an average of over .400 with the Brewers' Nokki Saralu logging .423 (22-for-52), the Yankees' Franko Nakamura tallying .417 (20-for-48), and the Aces' Joe Tudela recording .404 (19-for-47).

Rounding out the Top 10

are the Brewers' Pat Alepuyo (19-for-48/.386), North Starz's Roke Tenorio (21-

for-53/.396), the Falcons' J.J. Lifofoi (15-for-38/.395), the Brewers' Anthony Tenorio

(22-for-56/.393), and the Falcons' Giovanni Mira (18-for-47/.383).

In the pitching race, Jeffrey Lizama's 0.88 ERA topped the records of 10 others on the leaderboard. In 13 games, Lizama pitched 30.2 innings and yielded only three runs.

The Bears pitcher is ahead of the Aces' Michael Muna Jr., and teammate A.J. Lizama, who have identical ERAs of 1.32. Muna pitched 47.2 innings and gave up seven runs, while only four runs were scored against A.J. during his 27.1 innings stint on the mound.

Others on the leaderboard are the Bears' Jose Lizama Jr. (1.64), the Falcons' Frankie Lieto (2.08), the Brewers' Vince Cepeda (2.28), North Starz's Jared Camacho (2.57), the Aces' Lancaster Secharmidal (2.63), the Aces' Mike Iguel (2.76), Titanium's Joe Palacios (2.86), and the Blue Jays' Aaron Benavente (3.15).

In other categories, Saralu leads three divisions. He is

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Chalan Kanoa Bears players exchange low-fives while getting ready for their game against Titanium in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League last Wednesday at the Francisco "Tan" Ko Palacios Ballfield.